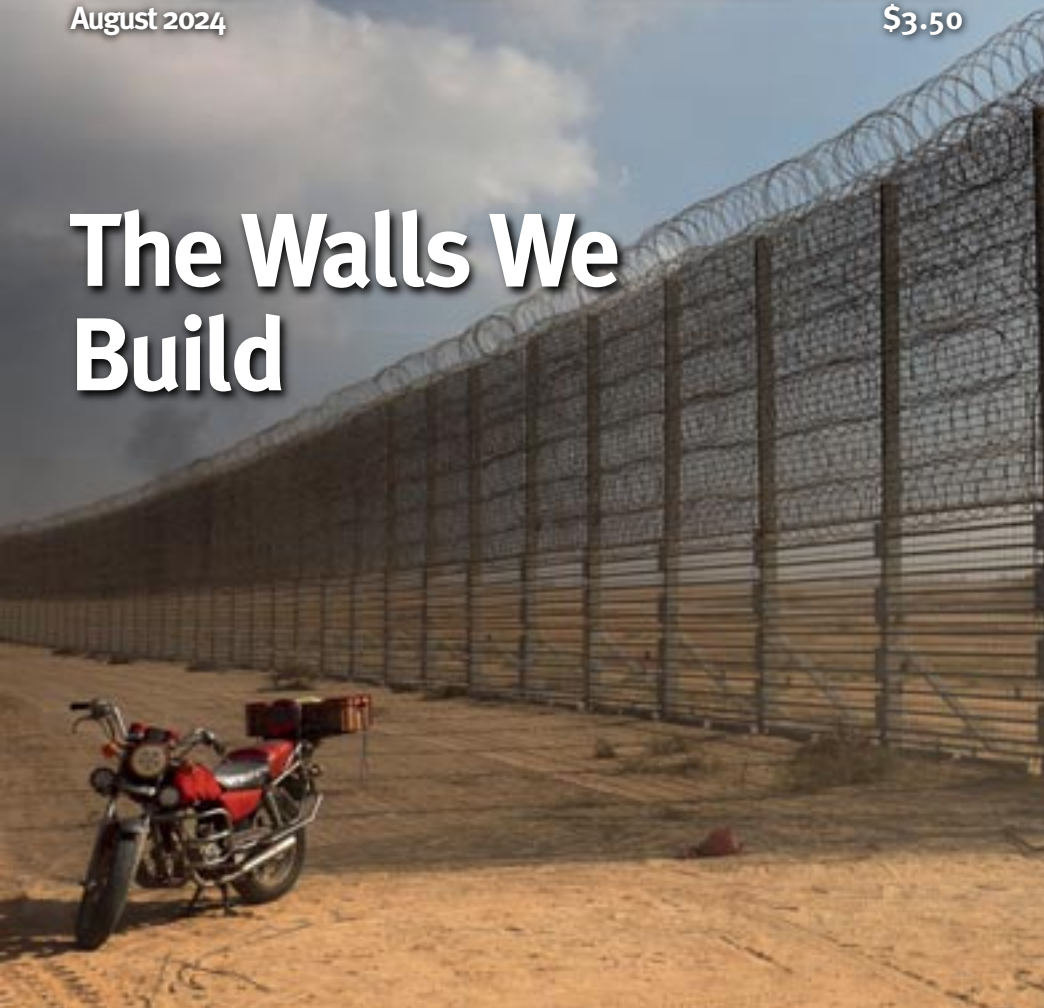


NEWS FROM ISRAEL

August 2024

\$3.50

The Walls We Build

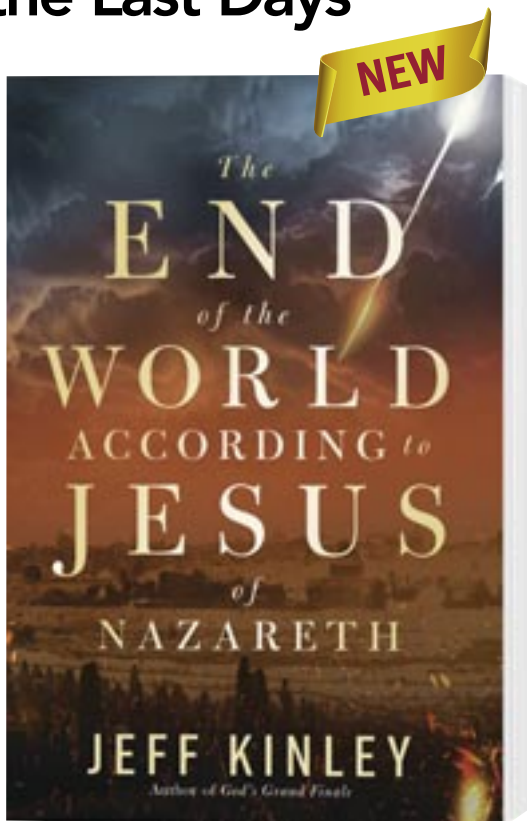


New History of Jerusalem P. 16 • Gog and Magog War? P. 17 • Palestinian 'Civilians' P. 21

What Jesus' Own Teachings Reveal About the Last Days

The End of the World According to Jesus of Nazareth takes you to the definitive authority on the future—Christ Himself—for a clear understanding of what will take place, when it will happen, and how God desires for us to be prepared. Centering on the Olivet Discourse in Matthew's Gospel, bestselling author Jeff Kinley examines Jesus' words in their original context, providing clear and engaging overviews of the tribulation, the antichrist, the second coming, the judgments, and Jesus' invitations to believers and unbelievers.

In this inspiring and approachable guide, Jeff provides you with clear, biblical answers about what is to come. Jesus revealed the future not only for His followers, but also for all of humanity—that we may turn to Him for salvation, live in hope, and be ready for His glorious return.



THE END OF THE WORLD ACCORDING TO JESUS OF NAZARETH

ITEM #2424 • 272 pgs. • Paperback

\$17.99 New Author: Jeff Kinley



Published twelve times a year by
Midnight Call Ministries, Inc.
PO Box 84309
Lexington SC 29073

Physical Location:
4694 Platt Springs Road
West Columbia, SC 29170, USA

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

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

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
U.S.A. \$18
Canada \$26.50
All other countries \$38 U.S.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR
SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRY:
Please send your OLD and NEW address
when moving or when making any
inquiry about your subscription.

INTERNATIONAL EDITIONS

Nachrichten Aus Israel (German), Postfach
290, Ringwiesenstrasse 12a CH-8600
Dübendorf Switzerland • Nieuws Uit Israel
(Dutch), Postbus 193, 3940 AD Doorn,
Netherlands • Notícias de Israel (Portuguese),
Caixa Postal 1688, 90001-970 Porto Alegre
RS, Brazil
• Noticias de Israel (Spanish), PO Box 84309
Lexington, SC 29073 • Nouvelles d'Israel
(French), Case Postale 290,
Ringwiesenstrasse 12a CH-8600 Dübendorf
Switzerland

4 Editor's Note *By Fredi Winkler*



6 Cover Story The Walls We Build

By Ariel Winkler

Israel's defensive border with the Gaza Strip gave the impression of being durable, impenetrable from the outside. But on October 7, Hamas terrorists broke through. How this applies to our life of faith in Jesus.

9 Why Criticism of Israel Is Dangerous *By Roman Nies*

13 On the Horizon

13 FRANCE
No Future for Jews but
Israel

15 ISRAEL
Alternative Protein Sees
Major Growth

16 ISRAEL
New History of
Jerusalem

23 Ebenezer Home *By David Phillips*

26 Action for Israel *By Arno Froese*

17 ISRAEL
Gog and Magog War?

19 ISRAEL
A New Name

21 ISRAEL
Palestinian 'Civilians'



Dear Friends of Israel,

BY FREDI WINKLER

What will happen in the conflict with Hezbollah, when the war in Rafah in the Gaza Strip comes to an end? Israeli sources remarked that there will then be a few weeks to negotiate and solve tensions with Lebanon. Should that not succeed, it would mean war with Lebanon. About 100,000 Israeli residents that were evacuated from the border area with Lebanon, are still waiting for when they can return to live in their own homes.

According to reports from Lebanon, Christian militias—along with the Druze and Sunni Muslims—are raising an army of more than 20,000 men to fight against the Shiite Hezbollah, so their country can finally be free and rebuilt. With this plan, they anticipate an immediate invasion

by the Israeli army in order to then—together with the regular Lebanese and Israeli armies—defeat the foreign invaders from Iran and its allies.

Lebanon was once called the Switzerland of the Middle East, when the country was still predominantly Christian. Actually, Israel had no problems with Lebanon in the beginning, but that changed after the Islamic Revolution in Iran. The Shiite Islam of Iran took on the mission of the destruction of the Jewish State. Then the Iranians began to mobilize the Shiite minority in Lebanon for their cause, and to build it into a militia subservient to them. This development led to Israel's first war with Lebanon in 1982, followed by a second one in 2006. The current conflict is the third exchange of military



aggression with Hezbollah in Lebanon.

It is interesting that Israel was able to conclude a peace agreement with Egypt and Jordan, but not with Syria and Lebanon. The reason for this is Iran, which wants to destroy the State of Israel. To achieve this goal, it needs Syria and Lebanon as a springboard. Here, it is noteworthy that, biblically speaking, all of Lebanon is part of the Promised Land, but has never belonged to Israel. At the time of King David and Solomon, it was the kingdom of Hiram of Tyre, who helped Solomon build the temple.

Twice the Bible describes the borders of the Promised Land in great detail: the first time in Numbers 34:1-12, and the second time in Ezekiel 47, from verse 13 to the end of chapter 48, in a vision of the future kingdom of God and the Messiah. The amazing thing is that in both lists, the border line is practically the same. Therefore, we can say that the promise of the land has never

been fulfilled completely in the past, and that the fulfillment still lies in the future.

The Christian population in Lebanon has always seen Israel as something like an ally against the ever-increasing Islamic population. Before the first Lebanese war, the Christian Lebanese President Bachir Gemayel formed an alliance with Israel. As a result, he was murdered. Most likely Iran was behind that even back then, trying to prevent such a development. Iran does not make peace with Israel but war ... however, God has other plans. Lebanon will be part of the Promised Land in the Messiah's Kingdom of Peace, just as Ezekiel foresaw. Interestingly, some are also of the opinion that many of the Christian Arabs in the region are descendants of Jews who believed in Jesus back then.

Knowing that God will carry out His plans, and that the enemy will not succeed in deterring Him, I greet you cordially with Shalom,

Frederik Winkler



The Walls We Build

BY ARIEL WINKLER

History teaches us that fortifications aren't a sure defense. There isn't a single fortress that will stand forever and not eventually fail.

◀ NIS 3 billion (\$830 million) defensive barrier on the border with the Gaza Strip, where Hamas terrorists broke through.

If you ask a child to draw an ancient city, odds are they'd draw a wall around it. Archaeological excavations have found that ancient cities were surrounded by walls to protect the inhabitants. Over the years, methods for building walls have improved. City gates have evolved, and the way walls are built has changed over time. We're still improving on the technology today.

In 1967, fearing an attack from Egypt and Syria, Israel initiated the Six-Day War, holding the Sinai Peninsula until the peace treaty with Egypt was made. The new border was drawn along the Suez Canal. In 1968, Israel constructed a line of defense along the Canal that came to be known as the Bar-Lev Line. It consisted of a string of fortifications along the Canal, with a second string behind it.

Between 2017 and 2021, following Operation Protective Edge

(Hebrew: *Miv'tza Tzuk Eitan*, "Operation Strong Cliff"), Israel erected a defensive border with the Gaza Strip, which is where Hamas terrorists broke through. The barrier's purpose was to prevent terrorists from entering Israel by digging tunnels under the border, and it cost about NIS 3 billion (\$830 million). After the barrier was built, tunnels were discovered in the south of the Gaza Strip.

In both cases, these lines of defense gave Israel a sense of security. They gave the impression of protective walls that were durable, impenetrable from the outside. But history teaches us that fortifications aren't a sure defense. There isn't a single fortress that stood forever and didn't eventually fail.

The same is true in the life of a person who believes in Jesus. Sometimes we also surround ourselves with walls meant to protect us; they come in many different

It isn't just the shield and helmet that protect us, but also offensive weapons such as the sword of the Spirit.

types and configurations. We make sure to surround ourselves with a community of believers, minimizing contact with non-believers. Or we may keep ourselves occupied with the business of the church. And there are plenty of other ways to build walls.

God's Word even encourages God's people to build certain walls. One example is the commandments that God gave the Israelites in the desert. He repeatedly warned them not to take after the Canaanites, whose land they were to inherit. He actually gave specific commandments that caused them to actively isolate themselves from the neighboring nations (Num 15; Deut 7).

The best defense is a good offense. During the monarchy, King David united the people of Israel under a single king and a unified system of leadership. He assimilated the remaining peoples of Canaan into the people of Israel. One example is Uriah the Hittite (2 Sam 11). Uriah is a shining example of a

man of God who was not part of the people of Israel by birth. Like David, we're called to preach to our fellow human beings and bring them into the Church of God. We shouldn't remain on the defensive, but go on the offensive.

The believer's primary "attack" is evangelism. When we preach, we're building up the body of Christ in two ways: first, by obeying Jesus' commandments (Matt 28) and enlarging the body. The second is by building our knowledge and depth in the faith as we preach and defend it.

In Ephesians 6:11-17, the Apostle Paul calls us to wear the full armor of God. It isn't just the shield and helmet that protect us, but also offensive weapons such as the sword of the Spirit. We need to step out of our comfort zone behind our walls, and go on the offensive to preach and defend the gospel and our Christian values.

(NAI0224/1407)

Journalists in Re'im, where hundreds were murdered at the Nova Festival Massacre



Why Criticism of Israel Is Dangerous

BY ROMAN NIES

Much of today's journalism seems to be driven more-or-less by hidden anti-Semitism, if not outright antipathy toward Israel. And surprisingly, this attitude is also found among journalists who especially profess human rights and the values of Western civilization. The contradiction becomes obvious when

one realizes that these attitudes would have received a warm welcome from the Nazis of the past. Any Jew-hater could pursue a career with the Nazis. But although the Nazis disappeared, the hatred of Jews remained.

It's true that those who criticize Israel's detractors aren't always right. Even Israelis, or friends of

Why Criticism of Israel Is Dangerous

Despite all the supposed justification that Israel is deserving of critique (yes, Israelis are people too!), it should be known that anyone who attacks Israel's position is working to strengthen Israel's enemies, and by extension our own.

Israel sometimes miss the mark. As a media consumer and good citizen, who seeks to be dutifully fair and impartial, you naturally don't want to be talked out of feeling compassion for the civilian victims in the Gaza Strip. So, it's important to understand a few essential facts to avoid getting stuck in the "mushy middle," or remaining willfully ignorant through lack of education.

Despite all the supposed justification that Israel is deserving of critique (yes, Israelis are people too!), it should be known that anyone who attacks Israel's position is working to strengthen Israel's enemies, and by extension our own. Among these enemies is political and traditional Islam, which neither accepts human rights nor grants non-Muslims any freedoms beyond those that it deems appropriate—in other words, no different from how the Nazis treated the Jews. Coincidentally, this Islam is

opposing Israel worldwide, for reasons that make it clear why the Nazis actually maintained friendly relations with Islam's representatives in their day.

Many of us have never visited Israel or the other cities and nations of the Middle East, which might better enable us to judge how the people live there. Of course, hardly anyone who grew up in the free West knows what it's like to live in an Islamic country and be treated as a non-Muslim resident. Nor do we have an inkling of what it's like to come into conflict with the laws of such nations; or worse yet, run afoul of Sharia law. In Israel, you'd be on familiar, safe ground because justice is administered similarly there, and the same fundamental human rights apply. That's why visitors from all over the world, as well as journalists assigned to the region, like to stay there. They're safe! They get along just fine. They have open, educated

people to converse with, and they lack for nothing.

In the Islamic states, it's a different, upside-down world. All non-Muslim minorities are oppressed. Take a look at the Open Doors website (opendoors.org), just so you're aware that what Christian residents remain are being persecuted in nearly every Islamic country. With the exception of North Korea, the list of countries that persecute Christians most severely is exclusively Islamic. It's not even possible for Jews to live in most of them, and they would be in great danger as tourists. Even in Turkey, a member of NATO and would-be EU accession state, Christianity has been almost entirely suppressed. All but a few tiny remnants have disappeared. And its few remaining synagogues have to be barricaded and protected like fortresses.

In the United States, synagogues have had to increase their security, and nearly half of American Jews recently reported that they have changed their behavior so others won't know they're Jewish. The threats they've experienced largely

come from supporters of "Palestine." But France and Germany especially have seen an even higher spike in violence against Jews. The threat often comes directly from the Islamic population, due to the higher rate of Muslim emigration to these nations. The same is true in Europe overall (although Eastern Europe traditionally has not allowed followers of Islam to gain a foothold there). All of the evidence shows that Jews are mainly at risk when they meet up with followers of Islam, whether in Gaza, Germany, or here in the United States.

One of the biggest mistakes and miscalculations the European governments have made, is their unwillingness to recognize that radical Islam is a danger to free Europe. Its adherents haven't learned to respect human rights, because they're following the words of the Koran. They believe it to be holy and thus excluded from reform, so non-Muslims can only ever be seen as second-class citizens. Some people are straight-out denied the right to life. As representatives of Islam have repeatedly said, vio-

Why Criticism of Israel Is Dangerous

lent jihad is seen as a justified, Islamic means of solving problems, including in the case of Israel. And this is confirmed by governments and media in Islamic states, as well as the parts of their populations who have taken to the streets by the thousands. This is why many view Islam as a backward, totalitarian religion which, when practiced closest to its roots, encourages fanaticism and terror. Mohammed is considered a role model. He was a warlord who wasn't squeamish in dealing with his enemies. He expelled two Jewish tribes, and slaughtered a third. Hamas wants a similar extinction for Israel, and they're aware that the majority of Palestinians are on their side (and the majority of Muslims worldwide). Even some climate activists, the new "heroes" of the West, have joined in with the "Free Palestine" movement. Ironically, it would be great if we could liberate not only "Palestine," but also the entire world—from anti-Semites.

Israel is certainly no threat to us, because the same social values

apply there as here, as well as the same tolerance. Unfortunately, the same ignorance toward the rise and nature of evil also prevails. Israel has tolerated the existence of Hamas for far too long, and has paid a bitter price for it. The seeds of evil will always sprout if not rooted out immediately.

And so, we should always be careful about seizing on or spreading anti-Israel narratives. Any attempt to weaken Israel weakens freedom, as well as strengthens those who oppose our freedom. Anyone who opposes Israel where its very existence and freedom are at stake, is on the side of injustice, subjugation, and oppression. The Germans' own "misjudgment" of the respect owed to the Jewish people in the Nazi era, should have taught them that this negligence can transform flourishing landscapes and cities into wastelands of rubble. This is also what the enemies of Israel and of freedom will do, if we allow them. They are masters of destruction and hatred.

(NAI0224/1408)



On the Horizon



FRANCE

No Future for Jews but Israel

Grande Synagogue of Paris Chief Rabbi Moshe Sebbag cast doubt on the future of Jews in France and advocated for youth to immigrate to Israel or other countries.



A man walks past graves desecrated with swastikas at the Jewish cemetery in Westhoffen, near Strasbourg, France. (photo credit: Arnd Wiegmann/Reuters)



"It is clear today that there is no future for Jews in France," Sebbag told *The Jerusalem Post*. "I tell everyone who is young to go to Israel or a more secure country."

"There is freedom of religion, but not for display in state spaces," said Sebbag.

Yet many Muslims have refused to comply with such aspects of French society, with more head scarfs worn in state spaces.

"Many Ashkenazi Jewish families here since before World War II couldn't think to vote for National Rally, yet the Left has been antisemitic in recent times," said Sebbag. "The Jews are in the middle because they don't know who hates them more."

-www.jpost.com, 1 July 2024

NEWS IN
BRIEF



BRAZIL ADOPTS FREE TRADE WITH PA

Brazil has put into effect a free trade agreement with the Palestinian Authority that has been waiting for ratification for more than decade, in a show of support for the Palestinian people.

"The agreement is a concrete contribution to an economically viable Palestinian state, which can live peacefully and harmoniously with its neighbors," Brazil's foreign ministry said in a statement.

It said Brazil, which recognizes a Palestinian state and allowed a Palestinian embassy to be built in the Brazilian capital in 2010, ratified the agreement between the Mercosur trade bloc of South America and the Palestinian Authority that had been signed in 2011.

Palestinian ambassador in Brasilia, Ibrahim Al Zeben, called Brazil's decision "courageous, supportive and timely."

It is "the effective way to support peace in Palestine," he said.

-reuters.com
8 July 2024



NEWS IN BRIEF



ANTISEMITISM IN QATARI SCHOOLS

Qatar's Talha bin Obaidullah Preparatory School, located a few miles north of the capital Doha, held an art exhibition in November under the title "Gaza in our Hearts."

Next to odes to Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine and posters calling for the boycott of various brands for their alleged ties to Israel, a section of the wall displayed students' works as part of a presentation titled "The Attributes of the Jews."

Sentences plastered on the wall characterized Jews as "corrupt, murderers of prophets, deceitful and arrogant."

The Mesaieed Preparatory and Secondary School for boys, located south of Doha, shared on X a clip filmed at a common prayer held in the school hall. During the prayer, an imam cursed the Jews, calling them "enemies of Allah," and called on Allah to "grant us jihad against the Jews with our souls, our wealth and our words."

The Qatari ruling family has bankrolled Hamas for years, among a score of other Islamist groups throughout the Middle East and Africa.

-timesofisrael.com
9 July 2024

Commentary: In a brief analysis, it is difficult to precisely uncover the roots of antisemitism. One thing virtually all agree on is that the Jewish people are the most common target when hatred of another people is expressed.

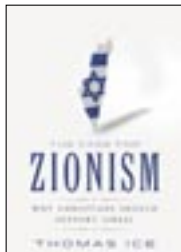
For example, the International Court of Justice elevates the terrorist organization, Hamas, to the same level as the nation Israel. These cold-blooded Hamas murders have been educated from the cradle to hate the Jews. Any and all of their problems are blamed on the Jews. It is incomprehensible that nations such as Iran, Iraq, a dozen or so African nations, as well as many Europeans and Americans, express more sympathy for the Arab Palestinians than the Jews.

The warning of Rabbi Moshe Sebbag reminds us of revisionist Zionist leader Ze'ev Jabotinsky, who strongly influenced many Jews to escape to the land of Israel.

Reading from Jeremiah 16:15: "But, The LORD liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he had driven them: and I will bring them again into their land that I gave unto their fathers." The return of Jews to the land of their fathers continues to this day. The prophet adds: "Behold, I will send

for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks" (verse 16). 8289

(See *The Case for Zionism*, Item #2327, \$14.99.)





ISRAEL

Alternative Protein Sees Major Growth

Alternative proteins are protein sources derived from non-traditional (read: non-animal) means. These include plant-based proteins, cultured (lab-grown) meat and proteins derived from fermentation processes using microorganisms.



Photo courtesy of Chunk Foods



A new and techy spin on schnitzel replaces chicken breast with spirulina protein alternative. Photo by Nimrod Genisher

 In 2023, Israel saw a record high of 15 new alternative protein startups, adding to an already robust ecosystem of over 80 active startups in this sector and more than 200 startups in food technologies.

This rapid expansion has solidified

Israel's position as a global leader in alternative proteins, ranking second only to the United States in private investment.

Regarding the mainstream adoption of alt-protein, Bruce Friedrich, president and founder of the Good Food Institute, likened alternative proteins to other green technologies such as renewable energy and electric vehicles.

"By investing in applied academic research, fostering innovative startups at every stage and facilitating international collaboration, we are accelerating the growth of Israel's alternative protein ecosystem," said Dror Bin, CEO of the Israel Innovation Authority.

-www.israel21c.org, 2 June 2024

Commentary: The phrase, "ranking second only to the United States in private investment," is noteworthy. One must realize that Israel is a tiny country with a population of about 9.5 million, compared to over 330 million for the US. Here again, we see Jewish wisdom is unprecedented. How successful these startup companies will be, only time will tell. But Israel is at the forefront.

We are reminded here of the words of our Lord Jesus: "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many"



NEWS IN BRIEF



SPACE AGENCY DEAL WITH TEXAS

The Israel Space Agency has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Texas Association of Business (TAB) to collaborate on space-based initiatives in the future.

The deal, signed at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev by TAB CEO Glenn Hamer and Israel Space Agency director Uri Oron, will help promote and facilitate business cooperation between Israeli and Texan space companies and organizations. It was also signed during a Texan legislative and economic development delegation to the Negev.

Texas is already home to a thriving space sector, with some aerospace companies operating in the Lone Star State, including Odyssey Space Research, SpaceX, Axiom Space, Blue Origin, Astrotech, Firefly Aerospace, and more. Even Israel's own Elbit Systems has operations in Texas.

Israel has also been making great strides in the space sector, and the Israel Space Agency is keen to help advance this sector.

-jpost.com
9 July 2024

(Mark 10:45). One thing is crystal clear: Israel, proportionally in terms of population and geography, is leading the world.

There is more to come; Zechariah proclaims: "Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you" (Zechariah 8:23). 8290



(See *Miracle of Israel*, Item #2303, \$14.99.)



ISRAEL

New History of Jerusalem

Researchers in Israel are re-writing the history of Jerusalem after advances in carbon dating have allowed them to create a timeline of its construction with greater accuracy than ever before.



The bat skull that assisted in dating the building.

Photo by Yaniv Berman/City of David Foundation



They now believe that much of the ancient city's expansion actually took place at least a century earlier than previously thought, and have been able to link archaeological findings from the City of David archaeological site to events described in the Bible.

As a result, they were able for the first time to scientifically reconstruct the history of Jerusalem from 1200 BCE—before the days of King David and Solomon—to the Babylonian destruction in 586 BCE.

Their discovery challenges the idea that Jerusalem was constructed during the 350 years when the kings of Judah reigned.

“Until now, most researchers have linked Jerusalem’s growth to the west, to the period of King Hezekiah—just over 2700 years ago, following the Assyrian exile,” said Prof. Yuval Gadot of TAU.

“However, the new findings strengthen the view that Jerusalem grew in size and spread towards Mount Zion already in the 9th century BCE, during the reign of King Jehoash, 100 years before the Assyrian exile.”

-www.israel21c.org, 6 May 2024

Commentary: Want to know about Jerusalem? Simply read the Bible.

While we highly respect archaeological findings, we have noticed during the last few decades how dates have changed in publications by archaeological research teams.

However, Jerusalem is significant and must be placed on a much higher level than any other city in world history. The Bible targets the spiritual side, which is the real thing. When it comes to Jerusalem, there is a copy – a heavenly one. “And I John saw the

holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband” (Revelation 21:2). Verse 27 lists those who are excluded: “And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a



lie: but they which are written in the Lamb’s book of life.”

8292

(See *Come and See What Will Take Place in the Future*, Item

#2401, \$5.95.)



ISRAEL

Gog and Magog War?

The prophecy of Gog and Magog is found in the Book of Ezekiel (chapters 38-39), describing a future battle where a coalition of nations, led by Gog from the land of Magog, will rise against Israel.



This event is said to precede the Messianic era, marking a climactic confrontation between good and evil. The prophecy details a catastrophic war followed by divine intervention, where God will decisively defeat the enemies of Israel, leading to a period of peace and recognition of God’s sovereignty.

Many Jewish rabbis have been discussing this issue since October 7. Rabbi



NEWS IN BRIEF



‘DEEP TECH’ PARTNERSHIP WITH SOUTH KOREA

Israel and South Korea have joined forces to launch an \$80 million innovation fund that will invest in cutting-edge startups in both countries.

It will allocate cash to 25 to 30 leading “Deep Tech” businesses—those involved in complex and lengthy research in the hope of making disruptive advances in technology. These companies typically operate in semiconductors, robotics, automotive, quantum computing, cybersecurity and digital health.

The new fund brings together the best of both countries. Israel is known as the Startup Nation because of its genius at innovation; South Korea, a country with five times the population, is recognized as a place to scale that startup and achieve commercial success.

The innovation fund will also promote collaboration between the two countries, both of which invest more heavily in research and development as a percentage of GDP than any others (Israel is the top-ranking country in this department; South Korea is second).

-israel21c.org
10 July 2024



(photo credit: IGAL SLAVIN)

Yosef Tzvi Rimon, an influential Jewish educator, and scholar known for his profound insights into Jewish law and eschatology, has provided a detailed interpretation of the recent conflict through the lens of the Gog and Magog prophecy. Rimon noted that the recent escalation coinciding with the Jewish holidays, particularly Sukkot, is significant.

He pointed out that traditionally, the war of Gog and Magog is expected to begin around this time. He explained in October, “The future redemption, which began to sparkle in the month of Nissan, will be completed in the month of Tishrei on Hoshana Rabbah during the war of Gog and Magog.”

The debate over whether the current conflict in Israel is the war of Gog and Magog reflects a blend of religious interpretation and contemporary analysis. For many Jewish and Christian spiritual leaders, these events resonate with ancient prophecies, providing a framework to understand the chaos and envision a hopeful future.

-www.jpost.com, 16 June 2024

Commentary: While the present situation may foreshadow the Gog and Magog war, as described in Ezekiel 38–39, it is not. Russia is most often identified as the major nation coming against Israel, but it is deeply bogged down in its war against Ukraine.

(continued next page)



ISRAEL

A New Name

Golda Myerson, David Grün, Yitzhak Yezernitsky and Szymon Perski are famous people you have definitely heard of. And they have something in common.



Do you know who David Grün is?

That was the name of Israel's famous first prime minister, who proclaimed the modern State of Israel on May 14, 1948, before he changed his name to David Ben-Gurion. The country's first female prime minister also changed her name from Golda Myerson to Golda Meir after immigrating in 1921. Yitzhak Yezernitsky made a career as Yitzhak Shamir and the former president of Israel, born Szymon Perski, became known as Shimon Peres.

It is common for immigrants to Hebraicize their name after arriving in Israel. In addition

Gog and Magog *(continued from page 18)*

Furthermore, this will be a gigantic invasion, and some Arab countries will protest: "Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?" (Ezekiel 38:13).

Also, what we do know is that



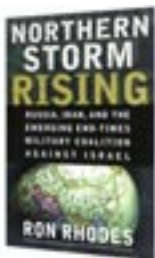
to the symbolic meaning of a new beginning in the Promised Land, changing one's name also has practical applications.

-www.israeltoday.co.il, 30 June 2024

Commentary: Those in colonial countries (USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, etc.) are familiar with name changes by choice and sometimes necessity. Take the famous Polish example, Grzegorz Brzęczyszczkiewicz: no problem for Polish schoolchildren, but a tongue twister for the rest of the

(continued next page)

the returning Jews to the land of Israel will experience the salvation of Zion. Chapter 39 concludes: "Neither will I hide my face any more



from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord GOD" (verse 29). 8288

(See Northern Storm Rising, Item #2294, \$15.99.)



NEWS IN BRIEF



SYRIA AND SAUDI ARABIA RESUME FLIGHTS

Regular flights between the Syrian capital of Damascus and Saudi Arabia resumed for the first time in more than a decade as part of a thaw in relations between the countries, Syrian state media reported.

Syria and Saudi Arabia had severed ties in 2012 over President Bashar Assad's brutal crackdown on anti-government protesters at the start of the civil war. But most Arab countries have restored diplomatic ties with Damascus, which was readmitted to the 22-member Arab League last year.

In May, Syrian pilgrims traveled on a direct flight to Saudi Arabia for the annual Islamic Hajj pilgrimage, but [the] Syrian Airlines flight to Riyadh marked the return of regular commercial flights.

Syria's 13-year civil war is now largely frozen, with the central government in Damascus having reasserted control over most of the territory, while much of the northwest is still controlled by a patchwork of opposition groups and the northeast by Kurdish forces.

-apnews.com
10 July 2024

New Name *(continued from page 19)*

world. A change may be considered essential.

In Israel, a name change was practical – from their birth name to Hebrew. They literally received a new identity ... no longer speaking the language of their mother tongue, but Hebrew.

This is a prophetic foreshadowing for the Church – those who are born-again of the Spirit of God. The early example is in the Old Testament. To Abraham, God said, "Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee" (Genesis 17:5). That was followed by the name change of his wife: "And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be" (verse 15). A very significant and dramatic name change took place with Jacob; we read in Genesis 32:24a: "And Jacob was left alone." It is noteworthy that it was not Jacob who wrestled with God, but "and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day."

Then follows something strange: The "man," representing divinity, asks the question: "What is thy name? And he said, Jacob" (verse 27).

Unger's Bible Dictionary defines Jacob as "heel-catcher, supplanter by popular etymology; but perhaps 'he whom God protects' from S. Arab. and Ethiopic 'akaba, guard, keep.'" Yet from that point on, the name Jacob was still used, even by God. Why? Because Jacob in the flesh was a supplanter – in plain words, a sinner. However, his total reliance on the living, invisible God caused his name to be changed to Israel: "having power

with God, or God's fighter."

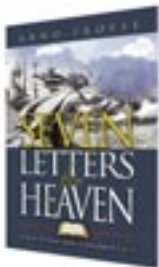
But there is more to Israel. The prophet Isaiah proclaims: "And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name" (Isaiah 62:2). Another name change. This, of course, is referring to the Jewish Messiah, whom we call the Lord Jesus Christ.

For each one of us, there will also be a new name. Even more, our nationality, race, heritage, culture, and family lineage will be done away with. In relationship to the Church at Pergamos, the mysterious, secret name would be reserved to "him that overcometh": "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a

new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it" (Revelation 2:17).

8286

(See *Seven Letters from Heaven*, Item #1081, \$4.50.)



ISRAEL

Palestinian 'Civilians'

[8 June 2024's] dramatic rescue of four Israeli hostages from Gaza included a shocking revelation: The hostages, who endured unbearable torture and constant threats of death, were held captive by Palestinian civilians in their home in central Gaza—including a journalist with bylines in *Al Jazeera* and his physician father.



Members of Al-Qassam Brigades, the armed wing of the Palestinian Hamas movement, march in Gaza City in commemoration of senior Hamas commander Bassem Issa who was killed along with other militants in Israeli airstrikes.

(Photo by Emmanuel DUNAND / AFP)



Let's get something straight from the outset: When you take hostages, you risk death. The moral and legal responsibility for any casualties resulting from the operation to free the hostages rests fully with Hamas and those holding hostages captive.

Under international law, it is a sacro-



sanct principle that civilians enjoy special protection, and the intentional targeting or harming of them during hostilities, is a grave war crime.

In other words, when you hold hostages captive, you become a legitimate military target and should not be surprised when the Israel Defense Forces come knocking on your door.

How many Gazan “civilians” helped Hamas move and store rockets? How many “civilians” offered up their homes to hold hostages captive or keep guard to make sure they did not escape? How many have been the willing accomplices and collaborators of Hamas in the worst massacre and crimes against the Jewish people since the Holocaust?

A group that murders, massacres, rapes, beheads, and abducts people, and has a relentless history of fabricating stories, inflating casualties, and using their own civilians as human shields, is not exactly the world’s most trustworthy source.

For Hamas, civilian death is their strategy; Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar has called civilian deaths “necessary sacrifices.”

As long as the press and world leaders fail to ask these questions, continuing to push false narratives and unsubstantiated casualty figures, they are only enabling and empowering Hamas and perpetuating the violence and suffering they claim to seek to end.

-www.newsweek.com, 17 June 2024

Commentary: This editorial by human rights attorney Arsen Ostrovsky, and West Point urban war expert John Spencer, hits the nail on the head. The conceit that all (or even most) of the Palestinian deaths in Gaza were civilians, flies in the face of common sense. Gaza is not a country, and although they rule, Hamas is not a real government. More importantly, it does not have a standing army or military bases, nor does it present a clear fighting front. When battling irregular/ guerrilla forces, it’s often impossible to determine who is a combatant. It is a tragedy that women and children are caught in the crossfire, but the fault lies entirely with Hamas fighters who, instead of protecting their civilian population, hide behind them and press them into military service.

As Scripture says, “...In your heart you devise injustice, and your hands mete out violence on the earth” (Psalm 58:2).

8278

-By J. Froese

(See *Israel on High Alert*, Item #2343, \$15.99.)





War Update & An Elderly Sister Needs Your Help

By David Phillips (*Ebenezer's CEO*)

War Update

As I'm writing you, it's the 251st day of the war in Israel: The south is more and more quiet, and the north becomes more and more tense. Each day, dozens of missiles are fired into Israel from the north, bringing our total so far to over 20,000 (more than that of the Second Lebanon War). We have used the bomb shelters a few times now, and are really thankful for God's protection and Haifa being relatively quiet, even though the city has received many verbal threats from our

enemies. I would like to encourage you to take out a map and look at this tiny piece of land called Israel. Whether the world likes it or not, it is the Promised Land to the people of Israel, who were once called Jacob. "And He said, 'Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed'" (Genesis 32:28).

It is the Word spoken by our Father in heaven, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, who brought



back His people and made it possible for us to live here. There is no doubt that HE deals with Israel in a mysterious way, which we can't always understand. Many times, I think Satan knows that if he destroys this nation, there won't be anyone to cry out, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!" Luke 13:35 says, "See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'"

Let us all be united in prayer, accelerating His plan and coming by praying and calling out, Maranatha (2 Peter 3:11-12)! Let us live the way our Lord expects us to.

An Elderly Sister Needs Help

Recently, it came to Ebenezer's attention that there is an elderly

sister in Yeshua who needs help, and I want to share this with you all. This lady doesn't have the financial means required to enter Ebenezer. Although our fees are low compared to other homes here in Israel, we still have costs that must be covered. This is where you and I can make a difference during this time of war and distress.

Ebenezer doesn't want to refuse her the help she needs, simply because she can't afford to enter the home. Our vision and goal is to care for the elderly believers here in Israel, regardless of their ability to pay. Many can't afford to cover their basic costs of living, and only pay what they can. Your gifts and support help to bridge this gap.

This month, we would like to raise the money this sister



needs to join the Ebenezer family. Will you help us welcome her into our Home, and provide her with the needed care and family? Any additional finances raised will go toward helping us with the other urgent projects we have right now.

Right now, we hope to accept three new residents into the Ebenezer family! It is a

time of war, and people need a safe and caring place to call home, especially during this season we are going through.

Stay tuned. Soon we will share a very special update about our properties, including a YouTube video, which we believe you will be very blessed by. Our Father is deep at work!!

Until next time, Maranatha!



Mail to: Midnight Call Ministries, PO Box 84309, Lexington, SC 29073

NFI0824
EH

- Yes, I wish to support the Ebenezer Home Project.
- monthly one time \$ _____
- Please send me *Remembering the Last of the Holocaust Generation* (Item #1095) for \$5.

Note: Donations for the project by check/money order should be made out to Midnight Call, and specify Ebenezer Home in the memo line.

With credit card ready, call:
800-845-2420

Web:
midnightcall.com/
ebenezer



Name: _____
 Address: _____

 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Card #: _____
 Exp: _____ Security Code: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

“And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase” (Jeremiah 23:3).

BY ARNO FROESE

The enemies’ desire to destroy Israel as a state causes the opposite to occur: Jews return to the land of their fathers, the Promised Land.

Despite the ongoing war and lack of safety, a new wave of Jews from the US and France choose to make aliyah, demonstrating an unwavering commitment to the State of Israel.

Marc Rosenberg, vice president of Diaspora partnerships at Nefesh B’Nefesh, a nonprofit organization that promotes and facilitates aliyah from North America, told The Media Line that Americans are now mainly moving to Israel for ideological reasons, although some are also coming for practical reasons.

“We see an increase of people asking about serving in the army, which is fascinating considering the danger that is involved,” Rosenberg said.

Twenty-four-year-old Hadar Amar from California hadn’t thought about moving to Israel before last year, although her two older siblings moved to Israel six and nine years ago, respectively.

“I got my degree in the States and started working at a corporation. However, there was always a sense of loneliness. I just didn’t feel connected; in America, I felt like a stranger,” she told The Media Line.

“Being in Israel now makes me feel safe, happy and connected. I’m with my loved ones. I’m also creat-

ing the life that I have been waiting for, for years. It's not easy, especially having the people closest to you serving in the army, but this experience helped me to realize what it's like to be a Jew in today's society," concluded Amar.

-*themedialine.org*, 9 June 2024

Under the word "Antisemitism," Wikipedia published a 50-page article. Here an excerpt:

There are various ways in which antisemitism is manifested, ranging in the level of severity of Jewish persecution. On the more subtle end, it consists of expressions of hatred or discrimination against individual Jews, and may or may not be accompanied by violence. On the most extreme end, it consists of pogroms or genocide, which may or may not be state-sponsored. Although the term "antisemitism" did not come into common usage until the 19th century, it is also applied to previ-

ous and later anti-Jewish incidents.

In recent times, the idea that there is a variation of antisemitism known as "new antisemitism" has emerged on several occasions. According to this view, since the State of Israel is a Jewish state, expressions of anti-Zionist positions could harbor antisemitic sentiments.

When it comes to the Church, the writings of former Catholic priest James Carroll expose the antisemitic treatment of Jews in his book titled *Constantine's Sword*: "Jews accounted for 10% of the total population of the Roman Empire. By that ratio, if other factors such as pogroms and conversions had not intervened, there would be 200 million Jews in the world today, instead of something like 13 million." In mathematical

We as believers—born again of the Spirit of God—have obtained the promise of Jesus, “Salvation is of the Jews.” Thus, we continue to pray for their salvation, based on the Word of God the Creator.

terms, that represents a decrease of 93.5%!

Here we are reminded of the prophet Isaiah: “And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more again stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth” (Isaiah 10:20). The fact that Israel can be placed under the category of exceptionalism is self-evident. This also became apparent since the murderous atrocities committed by the terrorist organization Hamas on 7 October 2023.

When we ponder the word “remnant,” we realize that the

7.2 million Jews in the land of Israel are indeed a small remnant, especially when compared to the almost 465 million Arab population of the Middle East.

But that’s not all; the rest of the world—and this includes the US—is categorized in one verse: “I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land” (Joel 3:2).

For all practical purposes, Israel does not have a chance to exist, yet the Bible makes it

crystal clear that she does. God's promise is based on the existence of the universe: "If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever" (Jeremiah 31:36). We as believers—born again of the Spirit of God—have obtained the promise of

Jesus, "Salvation is of the Jews." Thus, we continue to pray for their salvation, based on the Word of God the Creator. When judgment falls upon planet earth, exceptionalism will be revealed: "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble, **but he shall be saved out of it**" (Jeremiah 30:7). ^(NFI)

Mail to: Midnight Call Ministries, PO Box 84309, Lexington, SC 29073

NFI0824

Action
for **Israel**



MIDNIGHT CALL

"I will bless them
that bless thee..."
(Genesis 12:3).

With credit card ready,
call: 800-845-2420

Web: midnightcall.com/afi

After prayerful consideration, I/we have decided to support "Action for Israel."

monthly one time \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Card #: _____ Exp: _____

Security Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

▼ Enter Quantity Here	Item#	Price	Author	Total
___ Israel's Threefold Exodus	1088	\$14.50	Froese, A	\$
___ Prophecy for Judah	1084	\$17.50	Froese, A	\$
___ Prophecy for Ten-Tribe Israel	1083	\$14.50	Froese, A	\$
___ Prophecy for the Gentiles	1082	\$12.50	Froese, A	\$
___ Messianic Psalms	1074	\$14.95	Lieth, N	\$
___ Democracy Invades Islam	1072	\$12.95	Froese, A	\$
___ Revelation 13: Satan's Last Victory	1067	\$11.95	Froese, A	\$
___ The Sure Foundation of the Church	1066	\$18.50	Froese, A	\$
___ How Democracy Will Elect the Antichrist <i>Hardcover</i>	1064	\$17.95	Froese, A	\$
___ Spiritual Strength for Each Day <i>Hardcover</i>	1062	\$16.95	Malgo, W	\$
___ Daniel's Prophecies Made Easy	1057	\$12.00	Froese, A	\$
___ The Great Mystery of the Rapture <i>Hardcover</i>	1038	\$18.99	Froese, A	\$
___ The End of the World According to Jesus of Nazareth <i>New</i>	2424	\$17.99	Kinley, J	\$
___ Discovering Daniel <i>New</i>	2423	\$16.99	Tsarfati & Yohn	\$
___ Living in the Daze of Deception <i>New</i>	2421	\$17.99	Hibbs, J	\$
___ The Time of the Signs <i>New</i>	2420	\$16.99	Stagner, B	\$
___ Bible Prophecy Under Siege <i>New</i>	2419	\$17.99	Rhodes, R	\$
___ Out of the Far North <i>New</i>	2418	\$15.99	Tsarfati & Yohn	\$
___ Foundational Truths <i>New</i>	2417	\$24.99	Wayne, I	\$
___ One Day Nearer <i>New</i>	2414	\$19.99	Miller, S	\$
___ Adam: First and the Last <i>New</i>	2413	\$15.99	Turpin, S	\$
___ The Non-Prophet's Guide to the Book of Daniel <i>New</i>	2412	\$19.99	Hampson, T	\$
___ God's Grand Finale	2408	\$16.99	Kinley, J	\$
___ Has the Tribulation Begun? Study Guide	2407	\$10.99	Tsarfati, A	\$
___ Has the Tribulation Begun?	2406	\$16.99	Tsarfati, A	\$
___ 40 Days Through Bible Prophecy	2404	\$17.99	Rhodes, R	\$
___ Israel Always	2403	\$18.99	Katulka, C	\$
___ By Way of Deception	2402	\$15.99	Tsarfati & Yohn	\$
___ The End Times in Chronological Order Workbook	2397	\$17.99	Rhodes, R	\$
___ The End Times in Chronological Order	2284	\$15.99	Rhodes, R	\$
___ Revealing Revelation Workbook	2395	\$14.99	Tsarfati & Yohn	\$
___ Revealing Revelation	2394	\$17.99	Tsarfati & Yohn	\$
___ Operation Joktan	2389	\$15.99	Tsarfati & Yohn	\$
___ The Chariot of Israel	2386	\$8.95	Varner, W	\$
___ Jacob's Dozen	2385	\$7.95	Varner, W	\$
___ The Red-Haired Archaeologist Digs Israel	2384	\$15.99	Haley, A	\$
___ Israel and the Church	2376	\$16.99	Tsarfati, A	\$
___ Jesus in the Hebrew Scriptures	2373	\$9.95	Kalisher, M	\$
___ Experiencing Israel <i>Hardcover</i>	2367	\$29.99	Evans, T	\$
___ What Should We Think About Israel?	2358	\$17.99	Price, R	\$
___ What the Qur'an Really Teaches About Jesus	2351	\$15.99	Walker, J	\$
___ Israel on High Alert	2343	\$15.99	Rhodes, R	\$
___ Israel Matters	2328	\$17.99	McDermott, G	\$
___ The Case for Zionism	2327	\$14.99	Ice, T	\$
___ Miracle of Israel	2303	\$14.99	Frazier & Fletcher	\$
___ Northern Storm Rising <i>Revised</i>	2294	\$15.99	Rhodes, R	\$
___ Target Israel SALE	2293	\$12.00	LaHaye & Hindson	\$
___ ISIS, Iran, Israel and the End of Days <i>Revised</i>	2283	\$15.99	Hitchcock, M	\$

▼ Enter Quantity Here	Item#	Price	Author	Total
___ Come and See What Will Take Place in the Future	2401	\$5.95	Kalisher, M	\$
___ Progressive Globalism	1092	\$5.50	Froese, A	\$
___ Final Destiny	2377	\$5.95	MacDonald, W	\$
___ What About the Third Temple?	1091	\$4.50	Froese, A	\$
___ Seven Days to Eternity	1089	\$4.50	Lieth, N	\$
___ The Remarkable Story of Queen Esther	1087	\$2.50	Lieth, N	\$
___ Rejoice: How Prophecy Was Fulfilled at Christmas	1085	\$4.50	Lieth, N	\$
___ Seven Letters from Heaven	1081	\$4.50	Froese, A	\$
___ Exposing Mystery Babylon Part II	1080	\$4.50	Froese, A	\$
___ Exposing Mystery Babylon Part I	1078	\$4.50	Froese, A	\$
___ The Great Hallelujah	1079	\$3.00	Froese, A	\$
___ Daniel's 70 Weeks of Years	1073	\$3.50	Lieth, N	\$
___ The Coming Muslim Invasion?	1071	\$2.00	Froese, A	\$
___ Why Jerusalem Is Jewish	1070	\$2.00	Froese, A	\$
___ Seven Dispensations in the Bible	1069	\$4.00	Lieth, N	\$
___ Nebuchadnezzar's Dream	1053	\$3.00	Malgo, W	\$
___ Seven Signs of a Born Again Person	1030	\$2.00	Malgo, W	\$
___ Midnight Call	9211	\$24.50		\$
___ News From Israel	9212	\$18.00		\$

BOOKLETS

RENEWALS

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Email: _____

Total for Products \$ _____

Add Shipping & Handling \$ _____

Extra Gift to Ministry \$ _____

Total Enclosed ➔ \$ _____

Flat Rate Shipping	
US	\$4.95
US Priority Mail	\$10.95
Canada *	\$15
All Other Countries *	\$25

Check/Money Order Visa/MC/Disc/Amex

Card# _____ Exp. _____

Security Code: _____ Phone: _____

* When shipping more than 2 items outside the USA, flat rate not valid. Please call for postage quote.
Mail to: Midnight Call • PO Box 84309 • Lexington, SC 29073

Thank You

With Visa/MC/Disc/Amex ready, dial 1-800-845-2420 (8-5 EST, M-F).

Give a Thoughtful Gift That May Count for Eternity.

NFI0824

Your family, relatives and friends need to be updated on events taking place today as they relate to the eternal Word of God. What better way to do that than by sending a gift subscription that keeps coming to them 12 times a year?

○ Yes! Please send a one-year gift subscription of *News From Israel* for the low price of \$10 to the name listed below (US addresses only). Sorry, not valid for subscription renewals.



My Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____

Check/Money Order Visa/MC/Disc/Amex

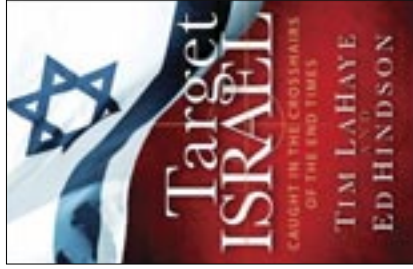
Card# _____ Exp. _____

Security Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Recipient's Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____

Make this anonymous



Why Israel's existence is a true miracle of God

TARGET ISRAEL ITEM #2293

224 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ Sale \$12

Authors: Tim LaHaye and
Ed Hindson

Midnight Call Ministries
PO Box 84309
Lexington, SC 29073

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Columbia, SC
Permit No. 185

3 Easy Ways To Order



Select your preference on the order form on pages 30-31 and mail it to us with payment.



Visit our online bookstore:
midnightcall.com/store



Call 1-800-845-2420,
8 am—5 pm EST with
your credit card ready.