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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 and  
Melanie Makin,  
*German-English Translators*

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

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Church arises from God's  
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We shouldn't forget that fact.

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## Dear Friends of Israel,

**BY FREDI WINKLER**

**W**e are living in the time of “political correctness,” in which speaking the plain truth is no longer appreciated. This is especially true in the religious realm. Thus, one more and more hears the opinion: We all believe in the same God! But nothing is further from the truth. This is particularly relevant in view of Islam. One speaks of the three “monotheistic religions”: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, which have the “forefather” Abraham in common.

Muslims celebrate the so-called “Feast of Sacrifice,” at which time they remember that Abraham was asked to sacrifice his son to the Lord. In the Bible this refers to Isaac, the Son of Promise, on whom the Jewish faith is built. However, the Muslims say it was

Ishmael, and no one seems bothered by this discrepancy. But the sacrifice of Isaac concerns a fundamental Biblical truth, which also in the New Testament serves as a picture of God giving His only begotten Son for the salvation of mankind. The Koran says further that it was not Jesus who died on the cross but someone who looked like Jesus. This is an unbelievable affront to the most important foundation of Christian faith; but again, nobody seems to be much bothered by that either. The main thing now is peace on earth, even if it comes at the expense of fundamental truths.

Islam emerged between 610 and 632 AD through Muhammed, who had adopted elements from the Old and New Testaments. Early on in the newly emerging



religion, there was a significant split between Shiites and Sunnis. The Shiites were of the opinion that only one of Muhammed's family could be a caliph, meaning Muhammed's representative. The Sunnis, on the other hand, said that this was not a condition. These two directions within Islam then developed differently.

The Shiites adopted more elements from the Christian faith. Christians believe that Jesus will return and establish His eternal kingdom. That is an element of faith missing in Islam. The Shiites believe the 12th Caliph—or Imam, as they would call him, who was born with the name Madhi in 874 AD—will return, just as Jesus will return. He then would lead Islam (in their case, Shiite Islam of course) to world domination, thus converting all of humanity to it. Originally, Shiite Islam was less militant than Sunni Islam; but since the Iranian Islamic Revolution of 1979 by Ayatollah Khomeini, this relationship has fundamentally changed.

The New Testament teaches that before the return of Jesus Christ, wars and hard times will come upon the earth. That is why Shiites think that war is good for them, because they believe it will bring about the return of the Madhi. The Iranians had waged war against Iraq under Saddam Hussein for eight years. This was not a war that made them popular. But a war against Zionist Israel has the potential to win many others to their ideology.

When we consider all this, then we understand that the war against Israel is a religiously motivated war. And religiously motivated wars have always been the most relentless and fanatical.

But, thanks be to God, we have hope in the return of Jesus, who will make an end to all wars and establish His eternal Kingdom of Peace.

I greet you in this joyful hope from Israel,

*Frederick Winkler*



# What Christians Must Never Forget

BY NORBERT LIETH

“Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel” (2 Tim 2:8).  
An appeal to not forget.

**I**n *From Eternity to Eternity*, Erich Sauer writes, “Israel should be [...] the ‘receiving station’ for the ‘waves’ out of eternity. Theirs should be a calling which should find its final center and crown in this, that at last not only God’s word but God Himself should come, not only His prophets, but His Son (Heb 1:2). Thereby Israel becomes the place of arrival of the World-Redeemer, the bridge-head of His coming out of eternity, the home of the God-Anointed (Messiah), and through Him the birthplace of the Christian church (John 4:22; Eph 2:19, 20; Rom 11:17, 18; Gal 3:9, 14).”

The birth of the Christian Church arises from God’s plan of salvation for Israel. Without Jesus’ birth as a Jew, there would be no Church among the nations. And there would be no Second Coming without the reborn Jewish State. We shouldn’t forget that fact.

### **AGAINST FORGETTING: A LOOK TO THE PAST AND PRESENT**

There are terrible consequences if we fail to remember that Jesus

Christ came into the world as a Jew and will return as a Jew. Consider these two examples from recent history:

In 1942, Nazi Germany issued a decree that Jews were not permitted to keep pets. One Jewish woman reported: “We had a parakeet. When we received the decree stating that Jews were forbidden to have house pets, my husband just couldn’t part with the animal... Perhaps someone denounced him, for one day my husband received a subpoena to appear before the Gestapo... After many fearful weeks I received a postcard from the police, stating that upon payment of a fee of three Reichsmarks I could pick up the urn containing my husband.”

Hans-Hermann Klare traces how hatred of Jews persisted and was omnipresent in the post-war period. The biography he authored follows concentration camp survivor Philipp Auerbach, one of the most prominent Jews in post-war Germany. He was a member of the board of directors of the Central Council of Jews, serving as state

commissioner in Munich. He was responsible for overseeing Germany's reparations toward those who had experienced persecution under the Nazi regime. He campaigned tirelessly for victims.

In April 1952, a sensational trial began against Auerbach in Munich Regional Court. He was charged with allegedly embezzling funds. It wasn't true, and he was cleared of all charges a few years later. In court, Auerbach quoted Abraham, who had once said to the king of Sodom: "I have lifted my hand to the Lord, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth, that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich'" (Gen 14:22-23). Both Auerbach's judge and the prosecutor were former Nazis. They made derogatory comments toward him, denounced him, and ultimately convicted him. They should never have been allowed into the courtroom as representatives of the authorities. Auerbach took his own life just two days after his sentence was handed down. He

could never get over having his "honor dragged through the dirt," he wrote to his wife.

In 1949 Karl Scharnagl, mayor of Munich, claimed in an interview with Voice of America radio news that anti-Semitism in Bavaria would disappear "if the Jews were no longer receiving their little perks." Anti-Semitism could only be expected to cool once this group of people had emigrated. Even General George Patton wrote in his journal, in response to inspections of displaced persons camps after the war: "[The inspector believes] that the Displaced Person is a human being, which he is not, and this applies particularly to the Jews who are lower than animals." And under Nazi rule, numerous businesses and public spaces were marked with a sign: "Jews and dogs not allowed."

### **AND TODAY?**

Solidarity with Israel was short-lived after the appalling events of October 7th. Instead, there was an explosion of anti-Semitic hostility and hatred for Jews online,



Noam Petri: “You can tell that the climate is shifting... Holocaust denial and distortion is trending.”

Munich, January 2024



on social media, and in the streets. In 2022, a student named Noam Petri pointed this out in a segment on German television: “You can tell that the climate is shifting in Germany. The numbers prove it. It’s not just a German phenomenon. Across Europe and even in the US, the numbers are going up. Holocaust denial and distortion is trending. People are saying things that wouldn’t have been acceptable 10 or 20 years ago”

(you can watch the segment here: <https://bit.ly/4anAgFx>).

We’re also seeing worrisome developments within Christianity. A few years ago, the *Danish Contemporary Bible 2020* caused a stir, because the translators replaced almost every instance of “Israel” ... with “the Jewish people” or “the Jews.” Published by the Danish Bible Society, it was intended to be a translation into everyday

language. Danish journalist Jan Frost was the first to point out the switch. In his opinion, this translation is exercising a Replacement Theology intended to deprive Israel of its status as God's chosen people.

Some examples:

- Matthew 2:21 records Mary, Joseph, and Jesus' return from Egypt: "And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel." The new Danish translation replaces "into the land of Israel" with "home."

- In Isaiah 43:1, "O Jacob" and "O Israel" were removed completely from this verse: "But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine."

- In Jeremiah 33:7, "all my people" replaces terms specifically referencing Judah and Israel.

Church history shows that the Church was formed out of Israel. But then we began to interpret

promises made to a literal nation as spiritual blessings. Rome became a stand-in for Jerusalem. And yet, Paul wrote that Timothy should "Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead..." (2 Tim 2:8). A few verses later in the same passage, he stressed the importance of differentiating: "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (v. 15).

Israel remains Israel, and the Church is distinct from it. The covenants are the covenants. Distinct eras remain distinct. Jesus' future Kingdom of Peace will literally come, and must not be spiritualized. Many Christians fail to remember this.

For example: In Matthew 24:30 and Revelation 1:7, some translations say that when the Lord returns, all the families (or peoples) of the earth will see Him (this occurs in various languages). But it's more correct to say that "all the tribes of the land" (meaning Israel) will see Him. The language

“Do not boast that you are better than those branches” (Rom 11:18). This is a warning to Gentiles who have received the gospel. They must not become arrogant or despise, or even condemn, the branches that were broken off (the Jews).

draws upon Zechariah 12:10-14. While it’s true that the whole world will see His coming, this statement has a special relationship to the twelve tribes and Israel’s restoration. This is crucial for redemptive history.

C. H. Spurgeon wrote: “I think we do not attach sufficient importance to the restoration of the Jews. We do not think enough about it. But certainly, if there is anything promised in the Bible it is this.”

Because this truth wasn’t given the importance it is due (in other words, not remembered), Replacement Theology crept in. Paul had strongly warned against this: “Do not boast that you are better than those branches” (Rom 11:18). This is a warning to Gentiles who have received the gospel. They must not become arrogant or despise, or even condemn, the branches that were broken off (the Jews). And yet for centuries, that’s precisely

what the Christian Church has done. She has boasted that she is the “true Israel.” William MacDonald reminds us: “Nothing can ever separate the Body of Christ from the Head, and nothing can separate a believer from the love of God, but the Gentile peoples can be removed from their present position of special privilege.”

Consider Christian music. While we rightly complain about some contemporary worship songs, we often neglect to notice disastrous content in older hymns. In practically every classic hymnal, Jewish terms are misappropriated. The hymns *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* and *I Love Thy Kingdom*, Lord equate Zion with the Church. And though God has never established covenant ties with any nation but Israel, some hymns go so far as to presume God’s blessing upon a specific (presumably Christian) nation, such

as *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* or *Jerusalem*.

Many people are also quick to assume that everything in the Gospels is intended only for the Church, leaving nothing for Israel. But the Gospels are primarily addressed to Israel and are predominantly focused on the Messianic Kingdom, which is ruled from heaven.

Let's redirect to something positive, and take to heart the words of Germany's former president Johannes Rau:

“With the people of Israel watching, I bow in humility before those murdered, before those who don't have graves where I could ask them for forgiveness. I am asking for forgiveness for what Germans have done, for myself and my generation, for the sake of our children and grandchildren, whose future I would like to see alongside the children of Israel.”

### **AGAINST FORGETTING: A SERIOUS ADMONITION**

We need to remember that Jesus Christ entered this world as a Jew,

died as a Jew, was resurrected as a Jew, ascended into heaven as a Jew, and will come again as a Jew.

Paul calls attention to this in his last letter, his second letter to Timothy, who was laboring as a church leader in Ephesus (1 Tim 1:3): “Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel” (2 Tim 2:8). We can learn four things from this request:

1. This is part of Paul's last will and testament.

2. It is part of his gospel (cf. Rom 9–11).

3. The Apostle to the nations is specifically saying this to the nations where Christianity is spreading. It is not to be forgotten among them.

4. It reads like Paul knew he was reminding them of something they would eventually forget.

The New Testament stems from the Old Testament. Jesus comes from the lineage of David. Paul could have written, “Remember that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead according to my gospel,” but he didn't. The addition is impor-

Jesus' lineage is also particularly stressed in other places in the New Testament. Romans 1:3 is one example: "Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh."

tant to him: "of the seed of David." This message is part of Paul's gospel, and so this truth also needs to be part of our own preaching.

Jesus doesn't come from Catholicism, nor does He come from the Reformation. He isn't a Roman, Germanic, Caucasian, Persian, or African. In the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth, where the angel Gabriel is said to have appeared to Mary to announce Jesus' birth, there are mosaic icons of Mary and Jesus depicting almost every nationality. You can see an African Jesus, a Japanese Jesus, a blond Scandinavian, a Frenchman, a Bulgarian ... Jesus came for all mankind and He is Savior of all, but His nationality is explicitly Jewish: "The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham" (Matt 1:1).

Southern Baptist theologian Craig A. Blaising once wrote of so-called Replacement Theology,

which teaches that the Church is the fulfillment of Israel or even replaces God's chosen people in the Old Covenant: "One of the most obvious effects of supersessionism in traditional Christology is the effacement of the Jewishness of Jesus from Christian confession. It is remarkable that the great creeds and confessions of the faith are silent on this point, being satisfied simply with the affirmation of Christ's humanity. However, in Scripture, not only the Jewishness of Jesus, but [also] his Davidic lineage are central features of the gospel."

Jesus' lineage is also particularly stressed in other places in the New Testament. Romans 1:3 is one example: "Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh." And, "Who are Israelites [...] Whose are the fathers, and of whom as

Jesus came for all mankind and He is Savior of all, but His nationality is explicitly Jewish: “The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham” (Matt 1:1).



concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen” (Rom 9:4-5).

### **AGAINST FORGETTING: A LOOK TO THE FUTURE**

Israel isn't just a leisure pursuit for pious experts. Nor should we be Israel fanatics. The point isn't to align ourselves with Israel's politics; we don't have to approve of everything Israel does. Modern Israel is a secular state. Israel's Orthodox Jews, its most devout citizens, vehemently reject Jesus. We also can't overlook the fact

that the Lord Himself said, “He that hateth me hateth my Father also” (John 15:23).

God Himself is very critical of His people, as is Paul. But because God's faithfulness ultimately triumphs—and because Jesus will return for

Israel—we stand by God's faithfulness to this people. “For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable” (Rom 11:29).

Jesus is the rightful heir to David's throne (2 Sam 7:13; Luke 1:32). Consequently, a future Messianic Kingdom can only exist with Him as King, and this reality is bound with God-given promises related to Israel.

In the prophetic book of Revelation, John is comforted by the promise: “And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah,

Let's also not forget that the nations will one day be judged according to how they treated the Jewish people.

the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof" (Rev 5:5). And the final chapter of the book says about the coming Lord: "I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star [...] He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly..." (Rev 22:16, 20a).

Let me reiterate: Jesus is still "the offspring of David" in heaven, and He is therefore a Jew who will return as a Jew.

Let's also not forget that the nations will one day be judged according to how they treated the Jewish people. "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shep-

herd divideth his sheep from the goats [...] And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matt 25:31-32, 40).

This is confirmed in Hebrews: "Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people" (Heb 2:17). We have a great task ahead of us in seeing that this reality about our Lord—namely, Him being from the line of David—is not forgotten. And as we carry it out, we must not forget that the peoples who hate Israel and Christianity are loved by God. Jesus died for the whole world, and the Lord has a plan of salvation for those from all nations.

(NAI0324/1411)



# On the Horizon

## NEWS IN BRIEF



### ISRAEL

#### Second Temple Era Stone Quarry Uncovered

A stone quarry dating from the Second Temple period, recently uncovered in a northern Jerusalem neighborhood, contains massive limestone slabs that were likely used in King Herod’s various construction projects from the first century BCE, the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) said.



**A stone vessel identified with the Second Temple period Jewish population, discovered in the quarry** (Emil Aladjem/IAA)



The archaeologists also discovered two stone bowl-like vessels, of a type that according to Jewish law cannot become ritually impure, “a find which by its nature always signals the presence of a Jewish population,” the IAA said.

The quarry, based on the small amount of ceramics found at the site, was “in use for decades during the end of the Second Temple period,” up to the “generation before the destruction” in 70 CE, archaeologist Michael Chernin told *The Times of Israel*.

The majority of building stones extracted from the quarry were “huge rock slabs” weighing around two and a half tons.

#### AI LIE AND DEEPFAKE DETECTOR

The system, developed by Israel-based startup Revealense, picks up on a whole series of tiny clues and interprets them with such accuracy that insurance companies trust it to check whether claimants are being truthful about what was stolen.

Finance companies use it to make decisions about loans. Homeland security agencies use it to identify terror threats. Human resources managers use it to help make decisions about who gets the job and psychologists use it to help diagnose PTSD.

The detector [also] analyzes videos at scale, categorizing them as deepfake, authentic, or suspect for further examination. It can process unlimited volumes of content, from single videos to millions, making it an invaluable asset for election integrity.

-israel21c.org  
7 August 2024



"The impressive sized stones this quarry produced likely attest to their intended use in one of Jerusalem's many royal construction projects in the late Second Temple period, beginning under King Herod the Great's reign in 37-4 BCE," said Chernin and archaeologist Lara Shilov, co-directors of the excavation, in a statement.

-[www.timesofisrael.com](http://www.timesofisrael.com), 1 August 2024

**Commentary:** Finding new evidence of the Jewish temple seems like a never-ending archaeological task. The fact that Jerusalem is Jewish is proven by the abundance of archaeological discoveries; in this case, the stone quarry pointing to the temple in Jerusalem.

The books of Chronicles conclude with these declarations: "Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD spoken by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the LORD God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of

all his people? The LORD his God be with him, and let him go up" (2 Chronicles 36:22-23).

Presently, the Temple Mount — where once the temple stood — is Arab Islamic-occupied, with a Muslim mosque and the Dome of the Rock. Much speculation has been published regarding the potential to rebuild a temple on that mountain. Yet, that seems all but impossible. The Arabs fiercely defend their right to the Temple Mount.

For how it will end, we find a very simple answer. Jeremiah 3:17 states: "At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the LORD; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil heart."

When will that happen? In His time, but it will happen: "Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began" (Acts 3:21).

8308

(See *What About the Third Temple?* Item #1091, \$4.50.)





## NEWS IN BRIEF




## UAE

### The Coming AI Powerhouse

The United Arab Emirates is on the path to becoming a global leader in the field of artificial intelligence, aiming to court outside investors while also increasing internal AI use.



 In April, Crown Prince of Dubai Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum launched the Dubai Universal Blueprint for Artificial Intelligence, a plan meant to increase business productivity by 50% and grow the economy by \$27 billion through the use of AI. [Recently,] the Dubai Center for Artificial Intelligence opened with the mission of helping government departments successfully use AI.

Companies within and outside the UAE are investing heavily in AI due to its transformative potential across various business sectors.

Isabella Williamson, founder of the Dubai-based AI consulting group Tyde.AI, told *The Media Line* that she noticed a high demand for guidance on AI usage from businesses in the UAE. Her firm, which she founded in April, has worked with the Dubai-based marketing agencies Active DMC and Edelman and for Mubadala, one of the UAE's state-owned investment companies.

"The real need is for affordable AI consultancy that helps businesses future-proof their people, technology, and operations against generative AI advancements," Williamson said.

-*themedialine.org*, 5 August 2024

### TURKEY TO JOIN GENOCIDE CASE AGAINST ISRAEL

Turkey filed its official request to join South Africa's genocide case against Israel over its conduct in the war in Gaza in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the Hague, the foreign ministry said.

"The international community must do its part to stop the genocide and exert the necessary pressure on Israel and its supporters," Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said in a post on X.

In January, the ICJ ordered Israel to refrain from any acts that could fall under the Genocide Convention and to ensure its troops commit no genocidal acts against Palestinians.

Israel has repeatedly dismissed the case's accusations of genocide as baseless, arguing in court that its operations in Gaza are self-defense and targeted Hamas militants who attacked Israel on Oct. 7 last year and killed 1,200 Israelis and foreigners in a single day.

-*reuters.com*  
7 August 2024

**Commentary:** The super-rich United Arab Emirates recently established diplomatic relations with Israel, with embassies in Abu Dhabi for Israel and in Tel Aviv for the UAE. For the oil-rich nation, high-tech—in this case, artificial intelligence (AI)—is essential for the future.

AI is not subject to certain highly-sophisticated institutions of learning or technical universities; it is actually open-ended—meaning no one knows where it will lead.

In his book titled *2084: Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Humanity*, scientist John C. Lennox asks three pivotal questions: “The presence of artificial intelligence in daily living has become ubiquitous. How many times a day do you ask a digital assistant for help? But is all AI innocuous? Do we ever consider how the increased incorporation of AI (both narrow and general) into our lives will affect our individual and corporate privacy, the security of our jobs, our political and personal freedoms, and the future of our species as a whole?”

In chapter 1 of his book, he writes: “[Regarding] artificial general intelligence (AGI) ... some think [it] will surpass human intelligence within a

relatively short time, certainly by 2084 or even earlier, according to some speculations. Some imagine that AGI, if we ever get there, will function as a god, while others, as a totalitarian despot.”

No nation, government, or institution of higher learning can avoid or ignore what is ahead in the new AI world.

What we do know is that mankind will worship the work of his hands. Of Antichrist, we read: “And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, 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. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should

be killed” (Revelation 13:13-15).

8313

(See *Revelation 13: Satan's Last Victory*, Item #1067, \$11.95.)





NEWS IN  
**BRIEF**



**ISRAEL**

**Ironies of History**

A century ago, a dying Ottoman empire sought to renew itself by exterminating its Armenian population. This attempt at nation-building through violence has parallels with Israel's current assault on Gaza.



**Marching to death: Armenians are deported by forced march during the 1915-23 genocide** Universal images - Getty



Defining genocide is not easy. The 1948 UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide talks of acts 'committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group.'

The legal definition of genocide is based on objective criteria, but politics is never absent. As historian Pery Anderson points out, international law is the 'law of the strongest': both state and non-state actors may have an interest in whether or not a mass crime is classified as genocide.

*-mondediplo.com, July 2024*

**Commentary:** The article appeared on the *Le Monde Diplomatique* website under the headline, "Armenia, Gaza and the bitter ironies of history."

The difference of the Armenian genocide can easily be seen, when compared to the establishment of the 50 sovereign states on the American continent.

**ARCHBISHOP OF  
CANTERBURY  
DECRIES  
'OCCUPATION'**

The Church of England's spiritual head urged governments to respect the findings of the United Nations top court that Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories is illegal, saying the law should not be upheld in a "selective manner."

Justin Welby—who also heads the worldwide Anglican Communion—said in a statement the ICJ opinion had made it clear the occupation is "unlawful" and must end.

"At a time when the world is marked by increasing violations of international law ... it is imperative governments around the world reaffirm their unwavering commitment to all decisions by the ICJ, irrespective of the situation," Welby said.

Welby said it was clear to him from many visits in recent decades the "system of military rule" imposed by successive Israeli governments in occupied Palestinian territories was one of "systemic discrimination."

*-reuters.com*  
2 August 2024

Researchers at University College London published the estimate of 56 million indigenous people killed. Other research shows 112 million, but all are more or less based on estimations and assumptions. The article states, “historian Perry Anderson points out, international law is the ‘law of the strongest.’” That, incidentally, is how all countries were established.

However, Israel is vastly different. They are not fighting a war against a nation, but against barbaric criminals that have one declared goal: kill all Jews. Today’s Jews in Israel will not permit this to happen. They are fiercely fighting any and all terrorist organizations whose goal is to kill Jews.

Most important to realize is that Israel is the only military force where the recruits are strictly instructed not to hate the enemy. They are the only ones that give warnings to civilians in case of aerial attack on buildings housing terrorists – sometime 24 hours in advance. Genocide would be indiscriminate carpet bombing.

So, why is Israel different? Because of God’s covenant. Here the declaration in Genesis 17:7-8: “And I will establish my covenant between

me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.”

What is the purpose? God’s unconditional promise: “Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?” (Genesis 18:18).

In Genesis 49, we read of the blessing of the twelve sons of Jacob: “Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father’s children shall bow down before thee. Judah is a lion’s whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?” (verses 8-9).

We are glad to say that no longer will Jews allow themselves to be at the mercy of foreigners. Instead, we read the declaration of Zechariah 8:23: “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.”

8298

(See *Jacob's Dozen*, Item #2385, \$7.95.)

## BRAZIL

### Acquires Israeli Spike LR2 Missiles

Amid mounting regional tensions, Brazil has upgraded its military arsenal by acquiring Israeli Spike LR2 missiles.



This strategic military enhancement coincides with escalating border disputes involving Venezuela and Guiana, fueled by the aggressive postures of Venezuela’s authoritarian leader, Nicolás Maduro.

This hardware aims to boost Brazil’s deterrence capabilities, especially in Roraima, a state marked by its strategic importance.

Concurrently, Brazil has invested in 36 self-propelled howitzers, further solidifying its commitment to robust defense mechanisms.

Equipped to operate nationwide, this brigade has recently conducted tests with a new missile system, emphasizing its readiness and operational flexibility.

This decisive move by Brazil underscores the nation’s strategic military planning

amidst a complex geopolitical landscape.

It highlights Brazil’s efforts to maintain sovereignty and peace within its borders and the broader South American region.

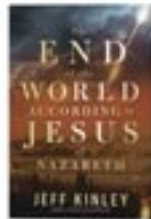
-[www.riotimesonline.com](http://www.riotimesonline.com), 16 July 2024

**Commentary:** When it comes to defense, Israel is second to none. They have the best of the best.

The Lord Jesus declared: “But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by. Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom” (Luke 21:9-10). In the end, however, all global military forces will be annihilated, and Isaiah 2:4 shall be fulfilled: “And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against

nation, neither shall they learn war any more.” 8310

(See *The End of the World According to Jesus of Nazareth*, Item #2424, \$17.99.)





## Multiplying Financial Gifts for Prosperous Real Estate Investments: A Journey of Prayer, Faith, and Gratitude

By David Phillips (*Ebenezer's CEO*)

Shalom from all of us here at the Ebenezer Home. Despite times of economic uncertainty and global distress—and especially with the situation here in Israel—it is often through the most challenging periods that the seeds of opportunity and growth are sown.

Today, I am writing to you with a heart full of gratitude and thankfulness about how our Father made it all possible. This article explores the transformative power of financial gifts when wisely invested in real estate, guided by faith and the principles found in the Bible. We also extend heartfelt thanks to all our donors, whose

generosity has made these endeavors possible.

### The Biblical Foundation of Wise Investments

The Bible offers timeless wisdom on the principles of stewardship and multiplication. One such passage vividly illustrates the importance of prudent investment; it is the Parable of the Talents found in Matthew 25:14-30. In this parable, a master (our Master) entrusts his servants (us) with different amounts of money before leaving on a journey. When he returned, the master rewarded the servants who invested and multiplied their talents, but chastised



the servant who buried his talent out of fear.

“For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away” (Matthew 25:29).

This parable teaches us the importance of taking calculated risks and making wise investments to **multiply** the resources we have been given. In the realm of real estate for His service, this principle is indeed true.

We know nothing is secure here on earth, so we invest in our heavenly future each day. Part of that is serving the elderly, the vision our Father has entrusted to us over the years. But until He takes us home, real estate has long been considered one of the most stable and lucrative investment opportunities. When we receive a financial gift, we can strategically invest it in real estate

to yield significant returns. Here are some key steps we used to multiply some financial gifts successfully through real estate investments.

We were able to purchase the property across the street from the Ebenezer Home, from the state some years ago, because it was a deserted property after the State of Israel was founded. In recent weeks, we finalized the deal and registered it in the name of the Ebenezer Home—only to find out, to our great surprise, that there was a lot more land belonging to it! To make a long story short, now we own even more than we first thought: God miraculously multiplied, not only the bread and fish, but also the land we now own!

Through this opportunity, it opened up the way for us to consider the idea of building more rooms for the elderly, as the demand is extremely high. If managed well, it will be a wonderful





chance to expand the Home and manifest our vision with your help.

In this time of economic uncertainty, the generosity of your gifts has been a beacon of hope and an instrument of change. The financial gifts entrusted to us have not only been preserved but also multiplied, due to real estate investments that will provide stability and growth for the future and care of the elderly.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all our donors. Your contributions are more than just financial support; they are acts of faith and partnership in a shared vision of the Ebenezer family and stewardship. Your generosity has enabled us to navigate through these challenging times with resilience and optimism, turning potential setbacks into remarkable points of faith.

We are working on a larger video update, and hope to post this

soon. This video will go into much greater detail. So, if you haven't subscribed to our YouTube channel, please go to: [www.youtube.com/EbenezerSeniorCitizensHome](http://www.youtube.com/EbenezerSeniorCitizensHome) and click the subscribe button.

A prayer request: Please pray for wisdom and His protection as we continue to face the local war challenges. Pray for our residents and team to rest in Messiah Yeshua and release all in His hands. Thank the Lord with us for the steps we could take in faith to multiply His gifts!

Let us remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:21: "Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord." Together, let us embrace this journey in prayer and faith, awaiting the soon return of our King and Messiah Yeshua!

“And the Lord said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt” (Exodus 10:21).

**BY ARNO FROESE**

**T**en horrible judgments came upon Egypt, because they refused to “let my people go.” The above Scripture describes the ninth plague. Most unusual is the statement, “darkness which may be felt.” With this, the Bible reveals that darkness is matter; it is much more than the absence of light. Here we are reminded of what many scientists speak of as a “black hole.” Indeed, in outer space there is nothing but darkness.

This also reminds us of the article from *The Media Line* regarding Egypt’s extensive blackouts.

Amid extreme temperatures, the state-owned electricity company is struggling to meet the demand for electricity and air conditioning in a population of over 114 million.

Government officials blame the power crisis on the ongoing high temperatures and supply issues, which “disrupted pre-planned coordination to secure the necessary fuel quantities for the increased summer consumption.”

-*themedialine.org*, 1 July 2024

A contributing factor is Israel’s natural gas supply reduction, which they claim is in response to Egypt’s lack of cooperation relating to the Gaza war.

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Another article, this time from *The Jerusalem Post*, reveals how Israel—despite now having an abundance of natural gas—continues to build gigantic solar energy storage facilities.

Enlight Renewable Energy has commissioned two new projects in Israel, bringing their number of solar storage units in the country up to 9, the company announced.

By the end of 2024, Enlight estimates that with the help of international partners, 632 MW of generation and 1,880 MWh of storage will be operating in an integrated configuration.

Enlight now has a total of four projects connected to the grid in the Gaza border communities since October 2023. Adding to the achievement, these projects were completed despite delays caused by the security situation in the area.

-[www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 9 July 2024

Back to Exodus 10; we see Egypt in total darkness, “even darkness which may be felt.” Verse 23 declares: “They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.” In the land of darkness, Israel had light.

What a mighty message for us believers. We are living in a world of darkness. The apostle Paul warns, “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?” (2 Corinthians 6:14).

It is unfortunate that so many dear servants of the Lord attempt to enlighten their government politically, which will never work. So, what are we supposed to do? Here the answer in Ephesians


6:12: “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” Quite clearly, not political; we stand in opposition to “the rulers of the darkness of this world.”

We do not have identifiable enemies (flesh and blood). Presently, the “favorite” enemies are Russia, Iran, North Korea, China, etc. Yet within these nations, Jesus is building His Church—light in the midst of darkness.

In the very instructive chapter 5 of Matthew, Christ admonishes us: “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (verse 16). Note carefully that

the light is the Lord Jesus, who declared, “I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” (John 8:12).

When we practice God’s instruction, something happens to those in darkness: “they may see your good works.” Unfortunately, we often do the opposite: showing off our works. Thus, the light is darkened.

In the meantime, Israel is fighting for its survival. But we hear the prophet Joel proclaim their future: “The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel” (Joel 3:16). 



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