

NEWS FROM ISRAEL

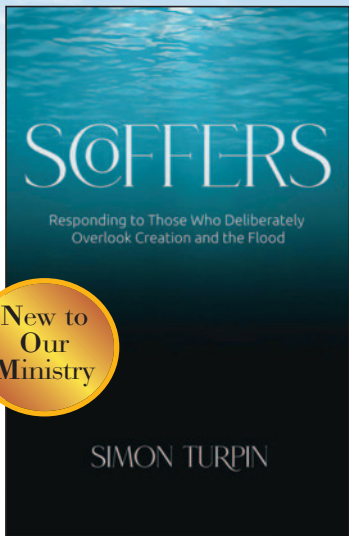
August 2023

\$2.25

It All Revolves Around Israel – Part 1



Most Targeted Country on Twitter P. 14 • 5,000 Olim Arrive in Israel P. 19



Responding to Those Who Deliberately Overlook Creation and the Flood

The scoffers of Peter's day were very much like modern-day skeptics in that they deliberately overlook the facts of biblical history. The cost of their unbelief is catastrophic even within the Christian church. Author Simon Turpin, the executive director of Answers in Genesis in the U.K., prepares us to confidently counter the philosophical bias of scoffers.

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4 Editor's Note *By Fredi Winkler*



6 Cover Story It All Revolves Around Israel – Part 1

By Norbert Lieth

Israel is both the geographic and spiritual center of the world and all its affairs. Ezekiel 33—48 record three major prophetic events at various stages: the physical restoration of the nation of Israel, the attack of Gog, and the spiritual restoration of the Jewish people, with a new temple in the messianic kingdom.

14 On the Horizon

- | | |
|--|---|
| 14 ISRAEL
Most Targeted Country
on Twitter | 19 ETHIOPIA
5,000 Olim Arrive in
Israel |
| 15 FRANCE
Israel Installs Car
Charging Road | 20 GERMANY
Teams with Israel on
Titanium-Air Battery |
| 16 ISRAEL
Millions Seized from
Hezbollah | 22 UN
Israel's West Bank
Policies 'Illegal' |
| 17 KOSOVO
Wants Strategic
Partnership with Israel | |

23 Action for Israel **27 Ebenezer Home** *By Arno Froese* *By David Phillips*



Dear Friends of Israel,

BY FREDI WINKLER

The Wagner revolt in Russia kept the world in suspense, until its surprisingly abrupt end after one day. What would be the result of such an exchange of military firepower in front of Moscow? What would be the consequences? The wildest speculations were afoot.

Also, from a Biblical perspective there emerge some difficult questions regarding Russia. There is a general anti-Russian attitude in the West. Why is that the case? For one, the West has always been afraid of Russia becoming too powerful. But in addition, there is a yet deeper reason for the aversion. Interpretation of Biblical prophecy has long held that, in Ezekiel chapter 38, “Gog from the land of Magog” refers to Russia. The reason for that is easy to see: It says that Gog will come from the

north. On the world map, Moscow and Russia are actually situated exactly due north from Israel. And that is why the prophetic Word seems to fit Russia perfectly.

The Bible, however, should not be interpreted according to our modern knowledge, but by Scripture itself. Jeremiah also speaks of the land of the north, using an even more extreme designation: “land of the north ... from the ends of the earth” (Jer. 7:22). If we compare this with Jeremiah 25:9, we realize that Babylon and Nebuchadnezzar were meant. For the writers of the Bible, Babylon and its surrounding lands were the far north, the ends of the earth. Whatever was located even further north was not known at all.

Interpreters now say that the peoples of whom Ezekiel 38 spoke, later moved further north



and formed present-day Russia. But there is no historical proof for this. It is much more likely that the prophecy of Ezekiel remains related to the territory of the people of that time. Today, Muslim nations rule there, especially Turkey. For comparison, we can consider Edom. End-time prophecy speaks surprisingly often about Edom; for example, in Isaiah 34:5-10, or Isaiah 63:1-6. The Edomite people no longer exist, but we know exactly where Edom's ancestral territory once lay.

It is hardly imaginable that Russia, which at present is not even able to manage the conflict in Ukraine, would dare to enter an adventure like the campaign that Ezekiel is talking about. But we see that there are others who are just waiting for the go-ahead to attack Israel and the Middle East—first and foremost Iran. Israel rightly draws attention to these countries. It is more difficult to predict what role Russia will play when this attack on Israel takes place. But in general, one can say that everything Russia does is viewed negatively in the West, or

at least with suspicion and mistrust.

When Putin recognized West Jerusalem as the capital of Israel in 2017, hardly anyone talked about it. This had aroused neither the interest of the world press nor the Christian press. Presently, Russia is negotiating with Jerusalem concerning the construction of an embassy building in Jerusalem. And this doesn't seem to interest anyone in the world very much either.

When the American President Trump did the same, the media spectacle was great. But the fact that even Trump had not recognized East Jerusalem as part of the Israeli capital, got lost in all the media coverage. And the USA continues to support the Two-State Solution. Israel indeed has to walk a political tightrope, so as not to spoil its relationship with either the USA or Russia.

Trusting the One who directs everything in such a way that His intentions are carried out, I greet you cordially with Shalom,

Trevor Winkler



It All Revolves Around Israel – Part 1



What Ezekiel 33 – 48 have to say about the present and the future of Israel.

NORBERT LIETH

When we consider current events, they can show us a hint of what God's Word foretells about the end of days: "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows" (Matt 24:6-8).

Both the Covid pandemic and the subsequent Russian invasion of Ukraine, draw our attention to the power of the Bible's prophetic Word. "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts" (2 Pet 1:19).

Current events shouldn't give rise to speculation. We're not concerned with exegeting the newspaper. Ultimately, the ful-

fillment of Bible prophecy is always the best interpretation. But we can be asking ourselves whether these events have started the countdown to "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass" (Rev 1:1a).

Paying attention to the Bible's prophetic Word means paying attention to each day. As someone once said, "The one who reads a newspaper knows what is happening in the world. The one who reads the Bible knows why."

Until recently, it would have been thought impossible for such a great threat of war to again be menacing Europe and the world, 77 years after World War II. In this regard, I'd like to draw your attention to some connections that you may find interesting. The existence of a Jewish State plays an important role in them. And, it's no coincidence that they're also directly related to a future attack

It All Revolves Around Israel: Part 1

“The one who reads a newspaper knows what is happening in the world. The one who reads the Bible knows why.”



by Gog from the land of Magog (Ezek 38—39). Israel is both the geographic and spiritual center of the world and all its affairs (Ezek 38:12).

Ezekiel 33—48 record three major prophetic events at various stages: the physical restoration of the nation of Israel (33—37), the attack of Gog (38—39), and the spiritual restoration of the Jewish people, with a new temple in the messianic kingdom (40—48).

Let's consider the different phases of Israel's restoration.

THE PHASE OF DECLINE (EZEK 33)

“And it came to pass in the twelfth year of our captivity, in the tenth month, in the fifth day of the month, that one that had escaped out of Jerusalem came unto me, saying, The city is smitten” (Ezek 33:21).

For that period in Israel's history, it was a low point. The worst word of its time. The greatest national catastrophe.

Daniel came to Babylon in 605 BC, and Ezekiel followed in 597 BC. On August 5th of 586 BC (the 9th of Av according to the Hebrew calendar), Jerusalem was completely conquered, and the temple destroyed. The prophet Jeremiah witnessed it firsthand. Starting in 539 BC, Jews under Persian rule were permitted to return, rebuild, and inhabit the land. It reached the point where a second temple was built—in preparation for the Messiah's first coming. When Jesus first came to Israel, the situation in the land was as follows:

“Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD unto the shepherds; Woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks? Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill them that are fed: but ye feed not the flock. The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye

healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them” (Ezek 34:2-4).

Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan addresses this situation, as does the parable of the Good Shepherd. Also remember Jesus' cries of woe over the people's religious leaders in Matthew, as well as His other statements: “I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep” (John 10:11). “But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel” (Matt 15:24). “And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things” (Mark 6:34).

Israel's wicked shepherds eventually rejected the good

shepherd, and the consequences were inevitable: in 69/70 AD, Jerusalem and the temple were again destroyed, this time by the Romans. It was certainly no coincidence that it happened on the same day as the first time (the 9th of Av). This was a great horror for the people of Israel: history was repeating itself. The people were scattered throughout the world (Luke 21:24).

In springtime, May of 1948, the Jewish State was reestablished. This time, it was in preparation for the Messiah's return.

THE PHASE OF A NEW BEGINNING (EZEK 34)

“For thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy

and dark day. And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country” (Ezek 34:11-13).

We should understand that Ezekiel isn't taking the Church Age into account, for it was still a mystery. So, these Old Testament verses are saying that the people will be gathered back to their homeland. Then the Lord will judge among the sheep of Israel for the establishment of His coming rule:

“And as for you, O my flock, thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I judge between cattle and cattle, between the rams and the he goats ... Therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle” (Ezek 34:17, 22).

Last but not least, these words are reminiscent of the

In 1948, Israel received a recognizable face again; it became its own entity. But it had no breath—that is, spiritual renewal. We read, “but there was no breath in them” (Ezek 37:8b).

description of the judgment recorded in Matthew 25:31ff. The Lord will judge both Israel (Ezek 20:35-38; Matt 25:1ff.) and the nations, and those who belong to Him will enter the kingdom. After that, King David will be installed as joint ruler in Israel (Ezek 34:23-24). The Lord Himself will be the God of His people (v. 24). A

covenant of peace is established with Israel (v. 25). The redeemed are established as a blessing (v. 26). The land will be exceedingly fertile (vv. 26-27). The people will no longer be plundered by the nations, but will live in safety (vv. 28-30). The children of Israel will be His flock, and He will be their God (v. 31).

THE PHASE OF GOD'S APPROACH (EZEK 36)

It's wonderful to compare points in history and see pre-



cisely how biblical prophecy is being fulfilled. The great goal is for the fig tree to bear fruit once again: “But ye, O mountains of Israel, ye shall shoot forth your branches, and yield your fruit to my people of Israel; for they are at hand to come” (Ezek 36:8).

In springtime, May of 1948, the Jewish State was called back to life. And so, Jesus' words about the fig tree are apparent: “Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye

know that summer is nigh” (Matt 24:32). The events in detail:

1. Gathering from among the unbelievers: “For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land” (Ezek 36:24).

2. Purification (forgiveness): “Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you” (v. 25).

3. Spiritual rebirth: “A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh” (v. 26).

4. God’s people once again: “And ye shall be my people, and I will be your God” (v. 28b).

The restoration of the land is closely related to the eventual redemption: “Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all

your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded” (Ezek 36:33; cf. Rom 11:26).

The goal of this national restoration is their spiritual restoration. This is more specifically explained in Ezekiel 37, so there will be no doubts about God’s predictions.

THE PHASE OF DEAD BONES (EZEK 37)

Ezekiel sees a valley full of dead bones. At God’s command, the bones come together again (Ezek 37:7), which symbolizes the 19th-century Zionist era. Then, the Jews began to migrate from the tombs of the nations, back to their homeland (Ezek 37:21). Incidentally, this happened first of all from the land of the north: Russia (Jer 16:14-15; 23:8).

After that, tendons, flesh, and skin began to cover the bones (Ezek 37:8). This symbolizes the founding of the State of Israel in 1948. Israel received a recognizable face again; it became its own entity. But it had

At what point will resurrected Israel receive the breath of the Holy Spirit? Apparently, this will take place after the events of Ezekiel 38—39, after Gog’s incursion from the land of Magog.

no breath—that is, spiritual renewal. We read, “but there was no breath in them” (v. 8b). And then it continues, “Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army” (vv. 9-10).

At what point will resurrected Israel receive the breath of the Holy Spirit? Apparently, this will take place after the events of Ezekiel 38—39, after Gog’s incursion from the land of Magog. At the end of Ezekiel 39, after Gog’s destruction, it says, “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” (Ezek 39:29).

Likewise, the Lord says that His sanctuary (the temple) will be reestablished in the midst of Israel at the same time: “And the heathen shall know that I the LORD do sanctify Israel, when my sanctuary shall be in the midst of them for evermore” (Ezek 37:28).

From chapter 40 through the end of Ezekiel (chapter 48), the future sanctuary—the temple—is described. Thus, the appearance of Gog occurs between the national and spiritual restorations of Israel. This means that the book could be divided as follows. Chapters 33—37: National Restoration. Chapters 38—39: Invasion of Gog. Chapters 40—48: Spiritual Restoration and Messianic Kingdom.

(NAI0622/1243)

Continued next month.



On the Horizon

NEWS IN
BRIEF



ISRAEL

Most Targeted Country on Twitter

In a troubling new study, it was found that “Israel was mentioned approximately 10 times more than any other country in tweets pertaining to human rights violations.”

IMPROVING CANADA’S EARTHQUAKE WARNING SYSTEM

Canada’s Ministry of Natural Resources has provided funding to Tel Aviv University (TAU) to develop software aimed at improving Canada’s Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) systems, Minister Jonathan Wilkinson announced.

“We are pleased to bring Tel Aviv University’s world-leading expertise to Canada, helping us gain access to the earliest, most accurate alerts for earthquakes and tsunamis,” Wilkinson said.

TAU, he said, “is the recognized world leader in the field of small-aperture seismic arrays that can improve EEW performance for cross-border and offshore events and is a responsible choice for the safety of Canadians.”

-israel21c.org
9 July 2023



Police officers stand in line to separate protesters supporting the Palestinians from a small group of Israel supporters in front of city hall in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

(photo credit: REUTERS/CHRIS HELGREN)



This disturbing trend reveals a deep-seated double standard against the country, perpetuating a disproportionate focus in social media discussions. According to the study, Israel is mentioned 12 times more than China on issues of violating human rights; 38 times more than Iran, 55 more times than Iran and 111 more times than North Korea.

The study, analyzing close to 100 million tweets from January 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022, demonstrates the shifting

popularity of antisemitic and anti-Zionist narratives on Twitter, particularly in response to real-world events. "This 'pendulum' effect highlights how political circumstances or changes in leadership, as well as conflicts and domestic unrest, can influence which narrative is favored," the report states.

A marked double standard against Israel is prevalent on Twitter, with human rights terms disproportionately targeting the country, further fueling anti-Zionist narratives that mirror traditional antisemitic tropes. The discourse on Twitter correlates strongly with real-world antisemitic incidents, suggesting that social media plays a significant role in amplifying these harmful narratives.

-www.jpost.com, 12 July 2023

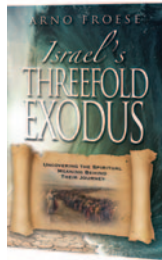
Commentary: Even from negative perspectives, Israel is different. The Jew is the most targeted person in the world. But already to Abraham, God gave this unconditional promise: "And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, 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" (Genesis 17:7-8). Later, God ordered Pharaoh

to let the Hebrews go. The reason?

"Thus saith the Lord, Israel is my son, even my firstborn" (Exodus 4:22b).

8040

(See *Israel's Threefold Exodus*, Item #1088, \$14.50.)



FRANCE

Israel Installs Car Charging Road

Israeli start-up Electreon is set to install an electric stretch of road that will charge passing electric vehicles in France, following its victory in a public tender. Together with European toll road operator VINCI, Electreon's Wireless Electric Road System (ERS) will be built into a section of the A10 highway, South West of Paris.



"We are honored that Electreon has been selected as the on-the-go wireless charging technology for France's first ERS deployment," said Oren Ezer, CEO and co-founder of Electreon.

The initial phase of the project will focus on charging commercial electric fleets while they drive. However, the ultimate goal is to deploy ERS across all major French roadways to decarbonize passenger and freight transport, the heavy-trucking industry, and



to support all types of electric vehicles to be able to charge seamlessly while driving on an open highway in France.

Electreon and its consortium partners were chosen as winners of the tender after France’s Transportation Ministry published a 2021 study on the most efficient and sustainable large-scale technologies and strategies to achieve net-zero transport emissions.

Electreon’s dynamic wireless charging technology has entered its fully-commercial and industrial phase and is the subject of numerous demonstrations, deployments and commercial projects worldwide; most notably in Israel, Germany, the United States, Italy, Sweden, and Norway.

-*www.jpost.com*, 12 July 2023

Commentary: It seems strange to read that the highly sophisticated country France needs an Israeli firm to create a while-you-drive electric charging system. The article reveals that the installation is not intended for France only, but literally the entire world. While the world turns increasingly anti-Israel, at the same time, they find themselves depending on the little Jewish nation more than ever.

8041

(See *Israel Matters*, Item #2328, \$17.99.)



ISRAEL

Millions Seized from Hezbollah

The Israeli government says it has seized millions of dollars in cryptocurrency from accounts that had sent or received funds in alleged financing schemes for a powerful arm of the Iranian military and the Iran-backed Hezbollah militant group in Lebanon.



ISTOCK/bright



Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said he issued an order to seize the cryptocurrency wallets and turn over the funds to the Israeli government.

He described the “extensive” operation as Israel’s first to target the Hezbollah militant group and the Iranian paramilitary Revolutionary Guard’s elite Quds Force—two organizations sworn to Israel’s destruction. Both have been designated by the United States and some other governments as terrorist organizations and locked out of the traditional global financial system.

It was a multi-agency effort, Gallant

said, involving Israel's Mossad spy agency, the Israeli military intelligence office, the Israeli police and others.

Israel has previously seized cryptocurrency belonging to the paramilitary arm of Gaza's Hamas rulers as part of counterterrorism financing investigations.

Countries facing American sanctions, like Israel's regional foe Iran, have worked toward creating their own cryptocurrencies to circumvent financial restrictions.

-abcnews.go.com, 27 June 2023

Commentary: There seems to be no hiding from Israel's security apparatus. Granted, loopholes will be created, as history shows, but Israel's technological capability will help them keep the upper hand.

Here we are reminded of the prophecy of Zechariah 14:14: "And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the heathen round about shall be gathered together, gold, and silver, and apparel, in great abundance."

8031

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



KOSOVO

Wants Strategic Partnership with Israel

In 2021, Kosovo became the first European country — as well as the first Muslim-majority one — to establish an embassy in Jerusalem, following the US and Guatemala.



Pristina made the move in exchange for Israel recognizing the independence it declared in 2008, following a war with Serbia in the 1990s.

Israel's recognition was "a breakthrough decision."

"It gave the signal in the international arena that Kosovo is a country that should be respected and should be recognized," said former Kosovo Prime Minister Avdullah Hoti.

Kosovo continues to work to expand the circle of countries that recognize it. Over half of UN member states recognize

NEWS IN BRIEF



MOSAIC OF SAMSON UNCOVERED

A Roman-era mosaic depicting the biblical prophet Samson has been uncovered by archaeologists at the 1,600-year-old synagogue at Huzoq, an ancient Jewish village in the Lower Galilee.

Mosaic panels depicting key moments in the life of the biblical figure, Samson, had been uncovered in the excavation seasons of 2012 and 2013. These include vivid portrayals of Samson's exploits with the foxes, as narrated in Judges 15:4, and the heroic episode of Samson hauling the Gaza gate on his shoulders, as detailed in Judges 16:3.

This year's dig added further depth to the Samson narrative, as newly exposed sections included a Philistine horseman and a slain Philistine soldier with a striking, classic face.

-*jpost.com*
11 July 2023



Former Kosovar prime minister Avduallah Hoti
(Lazar Berman/Times of Israel)

Kosovo, as do over 80% of European Union and NATO countries.

“We have been surviving for centuries under different regimes, under different occupations,” Hoti explained. “We were 500 years under the Ottomans and close to 100 years under the Serbian regime. So we managed to survive for centuries without having our state. So in a way, we struggled a lot for centuries to have our country.”

As Kosovo works to convince other countries to recognize it, the parliamentary friendship group is working to deepen bilateral ties with Israel.

-www.timesofisrael.com, 14 June 2023

Commentary: This small nation of about 2 million inhabitants – mainly Albanian Muslims – seeks a closer relationship with Israel, the nation that tends to be the number one enemy of Islamic nations. This new strategic partnership will prove to

be extremely beneficial.

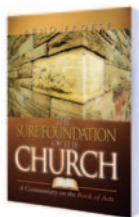
Landlocked Kosovo is bordered by Albania, Montenegro, Serbia, and Macedonia. It’s a relatively poor nation, with only \$11,900 real GDP per capita (2021). Yet their economic growth rate for 2021 was 10.8%. For Israel, it’s a diplomatic victory, as an increasing number of Islamic nations are not only recognizing Israel, but also wish to be part of their success.

Ephesians 2:12 is quite fitting in describing this relationship: “That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world.” While this is addressed to believers, we recognize that our position was “having no hope, and without God in the world.” But because of the greatest Israeli, Jesus Christ, we are “no more strangers ... but fellowcitizens with the saints, and

of the household of God.”

8020

(See *The Sure Foundation of the Church*, Item #1066, \$18.50.)





ETHIOPIA

5,000 Olim Arrive in Israel

Launched in June 2022, the second phase of the operation has been successful in relocating 3,000 Olim from Ethiopia, following the 2,000 immigrants brought over in the operation's first phase that started in December 2020. A majority of the newcomers, 70% to be precise, are under the age of 35, signifying a robust young demographic boost. Half of these fresh arrivals are children and teenagers eager to start their new lives in the Jewish homeland.



150 new Ethiopian immigrants arrive in Israel
(photo credit: Avital Shaar Yishuv/The Fellowship)



Facilitated by The Jewish Agency for Israel, Operation Tzur Israel has now managed to reunite a total of 5,000 Ethiopian Jews with their families in Israel, many of whom had been separated for a long duration.

According to a statement by the Jewish Agency, during the course of Operation Tzur Israel, specialized programs were also developed to optimize the integration of the Olim into Israeli society. Notably, the Aliyah Tech program was launched to pave a path for young Ethiopian immigrants to join the high-tech industry in Israel.

NEWS IN BRIEF



TERROR ATTACK ON EMBASSY THWARTED

An Afghani citizen planning a terrorist attack on the Israeli Embassy in Baku was arrested by Azerbaijani authorities recently, Azerbaijani media reported.

Fawzan Mosa Khan was planning to use explosives and other weapons in an attack on the embassy, according to the State Security Service.

The State Security Service did not specify which country's embassy was being targeted, although the Azerbaijani Turan news outlet noted that the video released by the State Security Service indicated that the suspect was conducting surveillance around the Hyatt Regency hotel complex, where the Israeli Embassy is located.

Azerbaijan and Israel have close ties, including arms sales by Israel to Azerbaijan. Earlier this year, Azerbaijan opened an embassy in Tel Aviv.

-jpost.com
10 July 2023



It is important to note that the majority of Ethiopian immigrants in recent times are not recognized as Jews based on Jewish Law and may not qualify for aliyah under Israel's Law of Return. The overwhelming number of immigrants are relatives of Israeli citizens who are granted Israeli citizenship as a compassionate endeavor.

-www.jpost.com, 12 July 2023

Commentary: Prophecy continues to be fulfilled presently and in the future. From all corners of the world, Jews are returning to their Promised Land.

David the Psalmist proclaimed: "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy; And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south. They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way; they found no city to dwell in. Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them. Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses" (Psalm 107:1-6). The remnant is returning home.

8039

(See *Messianic Psalms*, Item #1074, \$14.99.)



GERMANY

Teams with Israel on Titanium-Air Battery

Metal-air batteries are particularly suitable for applications in which a compact size is important or in large-scale stationary storage systems that use low-cost, common and nontoxic materials. Titanium-air batteries theoretically have two to three times the energy density of zinc-air batteries, which are used today as standard button cells in hearing aids, control modules and sensors.



The development of the new battery concept was carried out in close cooperation between Dr. Yasin Emre Durmus, from the Jülich Institute for Energy and Climate Research (IEK-9), which is headed by Prof. Rüdiger-A. Eichel, and Prof. Yair Ein-Eli, from the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, who spent a seven-month sabbatical at IEK-9 as part of the Umbrella Cooperation of Forschungszentrum Jülich in Germany, the Technion and RWTH Aachen University (the largest technical university in Germany).

Titanium is known as a passive, stable material. The researchers succeeded in using its electrochemical potential for the storage of electrical energy by applying an ionic liquid called EMIm(HF)2.3F. Ionic



NEWS IN BRIEF



liquids consist of salts with an atypical, very low melting point that are used in a variety of applications due to their special electrical and material properties.

In metal-air batteries, the contained metal reacts with the oxygen in the air to release electrical energy. This type of battery thus occupies a special position among batteries because one of the two reaction partners, oxygen, is obtained from the ambient air via a special electrode and does not have to be kept in the battery. As a result, much higher energy densities can be achieved with these systems than with common battery types, at least in theory.

The team published their findings in the *Chemical Engineering Journal* under the title "Exempli gratia non-aqueous Ti-air battery."

-www.jpost.com, 29 March 2023

Commentary: The goal is energy storage, and energy is something the world needs exponentially. According to OurWorldinData.org, the percentage of energy is divided as follows: oil, 33.1%; coal, 27%; gas, 24.3%; renewable sources, 11.4%. One of the hurdles to maintaining a reliable supply of energy is storage. Here Professor Durmus, a Turkish Muslim, teams up with Professor Yair Ein-Eli, an Israeli Jew, to solve or at least contribute to having a stable energy solution.



the Creator. Proverbs 8:14 proclaims: "Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength."

8036

(See *The Remarkable Wisdom of Solomon*, Item #2223,

\$14.99.)

USING AI TO 'TALK' TO BIBLICAL CHARACTERS

In the realm of technological marvels and intellectual pursuits, one entrepreneur's visionary journey has birthed an extraordinary creation: BiblePics. Sinai Elihai, an esteemed former Googler, growth marketing adviser, and proud father, spearheads this innovative platform that fuses the wisdom of the Bible with the limitless possibilities of AI technology.

In a chat with some of these characters, the AI version of King David spoke of his red hair and love for music, as well as his close relationship with Jonathan. The AI version of Abraham spoke about the complexities of leaving his father, while traveling to the Land of Canaan, and mentioned that he is "the father of many nations."

BiblePics is the remarkable result of a unique collaboration between two Jews and two Muslims, symbolizing the profound belief that bridges can be built even between seemingly different worlds.

-jpost.com
11 July 2023



UN

Israel's West Bank Policies 'Illegal'

In her "Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967," Francesca Albanese called on UN member states to prosecute Israeli officials under universal jurisdiction, and urged Palestinian Authority security forces to suspend cooperation with Israel "that may lead to violating fundamental rights and freedoms under international law."

tinians' rights and freedoms," she continued, not naming the Hamas terror organization throughout her report.

Both the UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council have been heavily criticized by Israel and the US for a lopsided focus on the Jewish state. Israel has accused the Palestinians, who have nonmember observer state status at the UN, of trying to use the world body to circumvent peace negotiations.

-*www.timesofisrael.com*, 10 July 2023




UN Special Rapporteur Francesca Albanese addresses the UN (Screenshot/ YouTube, used in accordance with Clause 27a of the Copyright Law)

Commentary: What Francesca Albanese failed to mention is human rights and freedoms for Jewish people. She identifies the atrocities committed by the Palestinian Authority in Gaza, but does not acknowledge that the leaders of the Arab Palestinians have repeatedly failed to accept Jewish presence in the Promised Land.

The ultimate result will be fulfillment of Bible prophecy. The prophet Amos concludes his book, "And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God" (Amos 9:15).

8035

(See *The Palestinian Right to Israel*, Item #2256, \$19.99.)

 Albanese has a history of anti-semitism, which she has not explicitly apologized for, instead denouncing criticism of her rhetoric as a smear campaign.

"Arbitrary arrests and detention carried out by the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank and the de facto authorities in the Gaza Strip have contributed to stifling Pales-

“Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a wonder: for the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid” (Isaiah 29:14).

BY ARNO FROESE

When reading chapter 29, we realize this is judgment upon Jerusalem. But at the same time, Israel’s restoration is guaranteed, as expressed in the profound words in the last verse: “They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding, and they that murmured shall learn doctrine” (v. 24).

When speaking about Israel, one must always keep in mind that they are distinctly different from all the nations on the face of the earth. It does not matter what country you reside in or to which nation you belong;

there is no future. Daniel, while in a foreign country, makes this crystal clear: “And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever” (Daniel 2:44). That is the precise future of planet earth: total destruction, total annihilation, yet His kingdom “shall stand forever.”

The prophet Jeremiah pronounces horrible judgment when speaking of the time of the Great Tribulation: “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). Very plainly, Jacob's trouble will end when "he shall be saved out of it."

We must also consider that part of the above prophecy was fulfilled about two millennia ago. The apostle Paul proclaims: "For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent" (1 Corinthians 1:19).

At this present time, Israel is still in darkness. While they have received a new spirit, they have not yet obtained "His Spirit." The prophet Ezekiel speaks of modern Israel when he writes: "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh" (Ezekiel 36:26). "A new heart" and "a new spirit"

means Israelis are not the same as Jews in the Diaspora; they are a vibrant people, on the way to superseding all nations of the world.

We must note the next verse: "And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them" (v. 27). That is yet to come; it is Israel's future.

Artificial Intelligence

An article on sgrlaw.com proclaims, "Israel: Small Country, Innovative Giant":

Israel has become a global technological and entrepreneurial powerhouse. The recent Bloomberg Innovation Index, an annual ranking of countries that measures performance in research and development, technology education, patents and other marks of technological prowess, listed Israel at #5 in the world. South Korea, Germany and Finland (which are also home to companies

represented by SGR) ranked first, third and fourth, respectively.

To explain artificial intelligence, builtin.com writes:

Artificial intelligence allows machines to model, or even improve upon, the capabilities of the human mind. And from the development of self-driving cars to the proliferation of generative AI tools like ChatGPT and Google's Bard, AI is increasingly becoming part of everyday life—and an area companies across every industry are investing in.

The Jerusalem Post reports on AI brainwave decoders:

Scientists have developed a system that can read a person's mind and reproduce the brain activity in a stream of text, relying in part on a transformer model similar to the ones that power Open AI's ChatGPT and Google's Bard.

This is an important step on the way to developing brain-computer interfaces that can decode continuous language through non-invasive recordings of thoughts.

"For a noninvasive method, this is a real leap forward compared to what's been done before, which is typically single words or short sentences," said Alex Huth. "We're getting the model to decode continuous language for extended periods of time with complicated ideas."

-www.jpost.com, 2 May 2023

The late, great scientist Stephen Hawking was quoted as saying: "The development of full artificial intelligence could spell the end of the human race." The Center for AI Safety adds, "Mitigating the risk of extinction from AI should be a global priority alongside other societal-scale risks, such as pandemics and nuclear war."

When doing research on AI, one does not find much history because it is all new. While the early, theoretical development may go back to the First World War, we know that for the general public, it was only in the 1970s that a mini-computer was readily available to many. But it was extremely primitive when compared to today.

We take note of the fact that Israel was born in May 1948.

These and other developments seem to point in the direction of a new dispensation, something humanity has not experienced during its 6,000+ year history.

Bible believers know the future; the apostle Peter reveals the end of planet earth, but gives us this glorious promise: “Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness” (2 Peter 3:13). ^(NFI)

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Fleeing the Nazis: The Testimony of Raissa Atlas



By David Phillips (*Ebenezer's CEO*)

(Rachel) was born in 1928 in Ukraine. When she was 13 years old, the war started. She had younger twin sisters. As the Nazis approached, her father was called to serve in the Red Army, and she, her mom and the twins got on a train to flee to Kurdistan.

Already in route, they were attacked from the air. The train had to stop and the people had to hide. There was no food and water, so it was very difficult.

After a dangerous journey, they finally made it to Kurdistan. But the twins caught an illness and didn't make it. They were buried far from home, and Rachel was

the only girl left. This was very difficult for the family.

After a year or two, the Red Army regained the invaded grounds, and so their family could return home to Ukraine. Sadly, when they got back, they found they no longer had a home; it had been blown up and entirely destroyed.

As they had no place to live, they went to an uncle of Rachel's



who lived in another place. It was here that their family began getting adjusted to their new life. That is the place her father returned to after the war. The entire time they were traveling from one place to the next, there were bombings, and they had to flee and hide often. One time they had to lie on the ground and Rachel, as a young girl, lifted her head. The plane was so low that she saw the pilot and his smiling face. This smiling face haunts her to this day, and she has never forgotten it.

During the time her father stayed with the fighting units, they found out he spoke Yiddish, and so they took him and used him as a translator for the Nazi soldiers they had captured. We believe God used this work to protect his life.

Rachel later became a pediatrician, married, and had two sons. She explained: “One day there was a tiny premature baby born (showing the listeners using her hands that he was about 12 in.

long). One doctor didn’t have hope that they could save this little boy, and so wasn’t even going to try.” But Rachel pushed him out of the way, determined to save this tiny baby’s life! After working long and hard, she managed to insert the life-saving IVs, which ultimately saved his life. With a smile she shares that years later, when this little premature boy grew up, he came back to thank her for not giving up and saving his life.

Before it became more difficult for Rachel to communicate, all fondly knew her for her love to pray with and for the volunteers and staff. When she saw you, the first question she asked was if you had children, and if not, were you married. If you replied “no,” she would exclaim, “Why not?!” Instantly, she would grab both of your hands and pray that God would bless you with a good, strong, and godly husband/wife, and that He would bless you with children. She would always pray for a certain



number of children, like two to four. If you asked her to pray that you would have more children, she would insist that she knew best because SHE was the doctor, not you! This always brought a smile to all who had this experience with her. There was no arguing with this doctor!

This wouldn't happen just once, but she would pray with you each day. Yes, all knew Rachel for her prayers, and they meant so much to each one. To

this day, past volunteers and staff share that this was the most precious memory they have of Rachel. Many now share with a smile how God answered her prayers for them.

With heartfelt thankfulness, we are grateful for your faithful love, prayers, and support! They mean so much to us and help us carry on and continue to care for Rachel, as well as other elderly brothers and sisters in Yeshua. Thank you!



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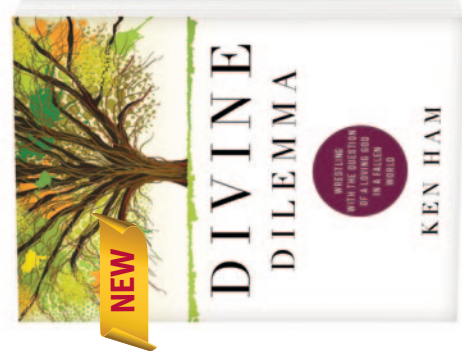
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