

THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER

Vol. 28

NISAN (March/April, 1982)

No. 1

Probes

Judah'82

Israel SPOT News/forecast Monthly



ruins of the ancient city of Megiddo, also known as Armageddon, overlooking the Plain of Jezreel-Esdraelon, or Armageddon, which has seen many of the largest battles and armies of history, and where many believe the final battle, the "Battle of Armageddon," will be fought (Rev. 16:16).

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**THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER — PUBLISHED
MONTHLY IN JERUSALEM, ISRAEL.**

Vol. 28 NISAN (March/April, 1982) No. 1

Founders — A. N. Dugger, Effie Dugger
Managing Editor — Gordon M. Fauth

The Mount Zion Reporter is published by The Mt. Zion Reporter Society, a non-profit association whose aim and purpose is to spread the gospel message throughout a darkening world, and to reach people everywhere with the glorious news of our soon-coming Saviour and King. This ministry, which reaches all parts of the world, is carried on through the prayers and support of those who share our burden for souls.

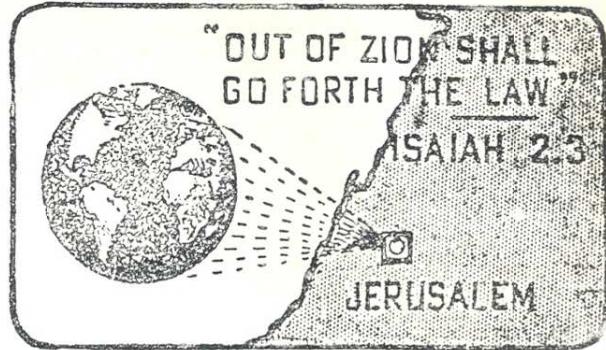
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U.S.A., Canada, Central America, West Indies	\$12.00
South America, New Zealand, Australia	\$16.00
Europe, Africa	\$9.00



JERUSALEM — THE HOLY CITY

Jerusalem — not Rome, Mecca, or any other city — is the Holy City of the Almighty. *"For the Lord hath chosen Zion: He hath desired it for His habitation."* (*Psalms 132:13*). *"The Lord of hosts shall reign in Mount Zion, and in Jerusalem."* (*Isa. 24:23*). *"They shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord."* (*Jer. 3:17*). *"But I have chosen Jerusalem, that My Name might be there."* (*2 Chron. 6:6*). *"The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem."* — *Joel 3:16*.

Funds may be sent by check, money order or bank draft.
Address correspondence to:

The Mount Zion Reporter
P.O. Box 10184
Jerusalem 91101 — ISRAEL

Sinai Withdrawal Approaches

by Gordon M. Fauth

Israel is now in the final stages of its withdrawal from the remainder of Sinai, as agreed to in the Camp David accords. The withdrawal will be completed by April 26, a few more weeks.

While Israel remains firmly committed to the withdrawal, the mood here is anything but enthusiastic. Many Israelis — about one-third — do not believe the withdrawal should take place at all. In the next few weeks, as the deadline approaches, their number will likely increase. Of the majority who do believe Israel should complete its evacuation of Sinai. Many have mixed feelings about it, some saying that the withdrawal must proceed because of the commitments Israel has made, others that Israel is morally obligated to take risks such as this in the search for peace. The number of those who are wholeheartedly in favor of giving up Sinai is steadily shrinking.

Syria's President Assad has recently said that once Egypt has regained Sinai, it will lose no time in rejoining the rest of the Arab world in the struggle against Israel, again pressing Israel on two fronts — north and south. In his statement, Assad came remarkably close to echoing fears which are being expressed here in Israel now. There are certain indications that something like this just could be in the wind and many people here are worried about it.

When Sadat was assassinated, his successor, President Mubarak, lost no time in assuring Israel that Egypt would remain true to the Camp David accords and

continue the peace process between the two countries. However, he also did not waste much time in sending feelers out to the other Arab capitals, and to Moscow, and he has made plain that Egypt is going to try to recover its position in the Arab world. He has also since become somewhat cold in his attitude towards the normalizing of relations with Israel. This has shown itself in several recent cases, including the breakdown in plans for his scheduled visit to Israel. The conclusion one draws is that, while he is paying lip service to the peace accords with Israel, at the same time President Mubarak is not committing himself too deeply, but is leaving the door open to a rapprochement with the Arab world; and it would be difficult, if not impossible, for Egypt to restore its good relations with other Arab countries while maintaining friendly relations with Israel.

It is important to remember that Egypt did not break off its ties with the other Arab states — they broke off their ties with Egypt after Sadat committed himself to normalizing relations with Israel. It would therefore seem that the only way Egypt could get back into the good graces of the Arab world would be to break off its relations with Israel. And in such a case the whole peace process would have been simply a ploy to recover Sinai.

To a very large extent, the continuation of the peace process with Egypt will depend on one man — Hosni Mubarak. While Sadat may have been sincere in his

desire for peace with Israel, it yet remains to see whether President Mubarak will consider peace worth while once Egypt again controls the Sinai. When a democratic nation enters into treaties and agreements with a totalitarian state, even one with the trappings of democracy, like Egypt has, it must realize that when a new leader assumes power its agreements may become worthless scraps of paper if he so decrees.

Of course, there are also other factors to consider. Egypt has, as a result of the peace process with Israel, also improved its ties with the United States. It has become the recipient of large amounts in American aid and has also enlisted America as its main arms supplier. While Saudi Arabia could probably replace the U.S. economic aid, the only real alternative to American arms would be to turn to the Soviet Union. And this might not be to President Mubarak's liking, as Russia usually exports its Marxist ideology along with its arms.

Sadat considered the Soviets to be a threat to Egypt's internal security, which is why he expelled most of the Russian advisors he inherited from Nasser and why, just before his assassination, he expelled the Soviet ambassador after charging him with incitement against the Egyptian government. Does Mubarak feel the same? There are indications that he may not. Almost immediately after Sadat's death, he ordered his country's news media to observe a moratorium on anti-Soviet attacks (he also ordered them to stop their attacks on the Arab states opposing Egypt's peace initiative with Israel). And, just lately, Egyptian Foreign Ministry officials met with Soviet embassy representatives in Cairo, evidently in a bid to mend fences between the two countries. Mubarak has also met with political opponents of Sadat's known for their affiliations with Moscow. Time will tell if any of this means anything.

If Egypt does continue to normalize relations with Israel, there is no doubt but that both countries could gain by it. Even now trade between the two countries is growing, and the potential for growth is enormous. Egypt represents a large new market for Israeli goods and services, and in many fields Egypt would benefit greatly from Israeli technology and know-how. But for this to happen the peace would have to be lasting and real.

Israel is making a great sacrifice in giving up Sinai. In monetary terms alone, it is costing the country an estimated \$25 billion. This is equal to a year's gross national product, or the entire cost (in money) of the 1973 Yom Kippur War. This figure does not even include the IS4b (about \$250m.) which the Israeli government is paying in compensation to the Jewish settlers who are having to abandon their homes, farms and businesses in Sinai. Since 1967 Israel has reportedly invested \$17b in Sinai for military purposes alone. Israel has some very large and important military bases and airfields in the region, and the cost of moving these and of reconstruction is immense, even considering the large part of the bill America has agreed to pay.

But the main trauma connected with the Sinai withdrawal is that caused by the removal of the Jewish settlers from the region. For years, the Israeli government has actively encouraged settlements in the out-lying areas of the country — in fact you could say that

all of modern Israel's short history and all of its energy has been devoted to rebuilding the waste places and making the desert bloom (Isaiah 27:6; 35:1, 2). To many Israelis, it seems almost blasphemous for their government to now be forcibly removing settlers it has earlier encouraged to settle and build in Sinai. There have been clashes between the security forces evacuating Sinai and Jewish residents there who don't want to go, even in exchange for the unprecedented compensation the government is paying. And the situation has been made the more unpleasant by thousands of anti-withdrawal activists who have moved into Sinai settlements in recent months just to resist the evacuation. It is an unfortunate situation from any point of view.

Israel is giving up a lot: two-thirds of its territory, the strategic value of the Sinai, its enormous mineral wealth, the valuable tourism industry made possible by the Red Sea coastline and its unique coral reefs, numerous Jewish settlements and towns and business industries in the region. And the question in everyone's mind is: is it worth it? Will it bring peace, and make Israel new friends? Or will it all be in vain, an enormous sacrifice made for nothing. Time will tell. One thing that should be evident to the world is that Israel is accepting grave risks and is making great sacrifices in the effort to bring peace with its neighbors. Which of these neighbors, in their thirty-year long campaign to destroy Israel, has done the same? □

* * * * *

The Almighty Chose Zion

"For the Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for His habitation. This is my rest forever. Here will I dwell, for I have desired it." — Psalms 132:13, 14.

"Let them be confounded and turned back that hate Zion." — Psalm 129:5.

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy." — Psalms 137:5, 6.

"The Lord shall bless thee out of Zion, and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life." — Psalms 128:5.

"The Lord shall inherit Judah His portion in the Holy Land, and shall choose Jerusalem again. Be silent O all flesh, before the Lord. For He has raised up out of His holy habitation." — Zechariah 2:12, 13.

"When the Lord shall build up Zion, He will appear in His glory." — Psalms 102:1.

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee." — Psalms 122:6.

"Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an Alarm in my holy mountain. Let all the inhabitants tremble for the day of the Lord cometh. It is nigh at hand." — Joel 2:1.

Joseph

by Joan McWhirter

The road from Jerusalem to Nablus must surely be one of the loviest in all the fair land of Israel. The milestones are the markers of history, as one passes close to Anata, the ancestral home of the prophet Jeremiah, past Jacob's Bethel, (in Hebrew Beit El, the house of God), on to a stone engraved with words, Ancient Shiloh, in Judea, now in the much-disputed West Bank, for so long the heartland of the people of Israel, where Samuel dispensed the Law and the sacred Ark was enshrined.

The road climbs and winds among the Judean hills, often bare and incredibly thickly strewn with huge boulders, and in other places terraced with rich olive groves, standing in the rustred earth. In the spring there is such a blossoming of the almond trees, and such a riot of the vivid, rich crimson of the first anemones, that suddenly one's eyes prick with tears of grateful joy.

At the summit of a steep climb refreshment can be found at the solitary small Arab shop, in a cup of delicious Turkisk coffee, dispensed by the Arab proprietor, who also sells a variety of the usual bric-a-brac beloved of the tourist. The height commands a splendid view over the richly cultivated valley and the clustering houses of an Arab village. Gazing over the scene King David's words lept to my mind — *"the valleys are covered with corn. They shout for joy. . ."* But now it is springtime and the valleys are filled, not with corn, but with the fragile, honey-scented beauty of a multitude of blossoming trees, reminding one irresistibly, at times, of a troupe of lovely young ballerinas.

Our destination was Nablus, to see the traditional tomb of Joseph, favourite son of the Patriarch Jacob. It is approached through a little courtyard, in which stands a fine tree. The small white building housing the tomb is immaculate, and the simple sepulchre is covered with a rich blue velvet cloth, on which is written, in golden Hebrew characters, the dying request of Joseph, exiled for a lifetime from his homeland, that at least his bones should rest there; a request honoured by his people, when 400 years later they were set free from Egyptian slavery by Moses. It seemed a little strange that the custodian of the place was an Arab, but then, Nablus is an all-Arab town.

The return journey brought two thoughts concerning Joseph. By the way, its worth refreshing your memory by reading his exciting life story in Genesis 37:45. He is surely the Old Testament's supreme example of the truth of a wonderful verse in the New Testament, Romans 8:28. *"All things work together for good to them that love God".* An interesting discovery was the Jews have a traditional saying embodying this same thought — Gam zu le tova — literally "also this for good". But then, of course, the writer of the Letter to the Romans was a Jew!

What could have seemed less likely to Joseph, as a lad of 17, when his jealous brothers sold him as a slave, than that this would be for his good? Salvery was followed by imprisonment on a false charge, when what must be the first recorded anti-semitic remark was made, *"See, he has brought in a Hebrew to mock us. . ."*

Thirteen long years ensued, in which, we are told, the iron entered Joseph's soul, not the iron of bitterness, but of God's strengthening discipline; though being but human, Joseph must have passed through depths of dark and doubting despair many times. During those thirteen years he endured one of life's cruellest hurts — the requital of kindness with base ingratitude, the forgetting of a promise to intercede on his behalf, and so free him from prison.

And where, in all this, was there "good"? Think of it in this way. Had his brothers not sold him into slavery he would have remained, possibly, unknown, to pass his life obscurely, instead of becoming the Prime Minister of Egypt. Had Potiphar's wife not lied him into prison, he would, perhaps, have lived and died the slave of her husband. Had the man whose dream he interpreted correctly remembered his promise and brought him out of prison, Joseph would probably have left Egypt and returned to his small tribe in Canaan. The Pharaoh's dream would not have been interpreted by Joseph, nor would he have become second only to Pharaoh; the man whose wise counsel saved Egypt from the ravages of national famine; and the history of those times would have had to be written differently. The jealousy and treachery of his brothers', the revenge of a rejected woman, the ingratitude of his fellow prisoner, proved ultimately to be all "for good".

The second thought which came from that visit to Joseph's tomb was that his story throws some light on the irrational and evil phenomenon of anti-semitism. To explore this thought one must view his relationship with his brothers from a wider than usual angle.

Take the brothers as typifying nations, and not individuals. There are many facets to that strange thing called anti-semitism. Could one not be jealousy? Joseph informed his brothers in no uncertain terms, and let's be honest, with considerable smugness, that he was no ordinary lad, but the chosen of heaven. The brothers reacted, understandably, by saying, virtually, "Oh really, we will soon see about that". The people of Israel of old informed their neighbours that they were chosen of God, and all down the ages the nations have done their utmost, by persecution, suppression, oppression and when possible, mass murder, to disprove that assertion. The late Golda Meir once remarked that she wished God would now choose someone else! The mistake of the nations lay in thinking that the

(continued on page 5)

The Value Of Kindness

Gone forever! What? Opportunities to be kind. To meet certain situations of our past lives lovingly, kindly, and in the fear of our Father above.

I have an old-fashioned photograph album. Occasionally I open it and gaze at one loved face after another. Some are now sleeping their last sleep. Others have long been separated from us. Some have changed from babyhood to maturity. All are changed; and the thought that most impresses itself upon me is the extreme brevity of time, and the importance of being kind now, with a realization that "we pass this way but once".

Many years ago a young girl stood in the moonlight at the gate of her father's home, looking ahead, with joy, into the life that lay before her. The reflections of that hour are as vivid today as if it were but yesterday.

She looked back over the sixteen happy years of her life. She counted ahead another sixteen years and rejoiced to think that even then she would be thirty-two years old. Doubling that, she would still lack a good many years of being as old as the dear old grandmother who shared their peaceful home.

Oh, the long, long dreams of youth. How slowly time seems to drag toward certain anticipated pleasures when one is young. But looking back from the half century mark, how brief, how brief is life!

The paramount question, as we review the past and the many incidents connected with our lives is: "Was I kind"? Sometimes we can say "yes", and if so, what a satisfaction is ours. But other scenes arise in memory's halls that will haunt us as long as life lasts, because of failure to measure up to God's law of kindness. Certain trials seemed too great, and not realizing how soon those trials would be past, we failed to be kind. God pity and forgive us. He does, but He wants us to learn

from these experiences of the past, lessons of kindness for the future. We cannot bring back the past or relive it, much as we might desire to do so, but the present and future are ours in which to be kind to those who are still with us.

But, oh mothers and fathers, the little ones in our arms and around our knees are not the only ones who need our love and tenderness. There is that aged father and mother, perhaps straving for a kind word or a look of love.

If you would be saved haunting memories when you, yourself, as you so soon will, pass the zenith of life and start down the steep incline toward the setting of the sun — be kind!

That dear old mother loved you, cradled you as you do yours today. "On her arm was thy support, now she leans on thine." That old father is made sad or happy by your attitude toward him more than you dream.

Then there is the husband and the wife. Are you a trial to each other? Just remember that Satan is aiming his biggest guns these days at the home — so be kind. If Jesus tarries, one or the other will soon stand by the side of an open grave and long for the opportunities you now have to be more kind; realizing, perhaps too late, what you meant to each other.

Besides the loved one in the home, there is the old or new friend, or the passing acquaintance. All need our sympathy and kindness. "Do you know the world is dying for a little love?" Truly friends, it is. Then let us resolve to "scatter seeds of kindness for our reaping by and by."

"Charity sufferth long, and is kind." 1 Corinthians 13:4. ☒

JOSEPH

(continued from page 4)

Jews were claiming the right to rule others, although time and again the prophets hammered home the truth that God was choosing a servant, not a conqueror.

In spite of, or perhaps because of all that they have suffered, the Jews have produced, per-rate, more genius and talent, and have made a bigger contribution to mankind than any other people in history. If you doubt that statement go and flip through the pages of a Jewish encyclopaedia and you will be amazed by the number of world-famous names which you never realised belonged to Jews. But this has not been calculated to endear them to envious neighbours.

It is a sobering thought that to be anti-semitic is to be anti-God. If He, for His own inscrutable purposes chose the Jewish people, then antagonism to them is antagonism to the will of God. If you like to repeat the jingle, "How odd that God should choose the Jews",

don't forget that however odd it may seem to us — He did.

The world is in their debt in all the fields of human achievement, and in the realm of religion the debt is incalculable. They gave us the Scriptures; they gave us Jesus. The world's greatest book and history's greatest life — He, who to Christians, is the Word of God. □



REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM

"PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM: THEY SHALL PROSPER THAT LOVE THEE." PSALMS 122:6.

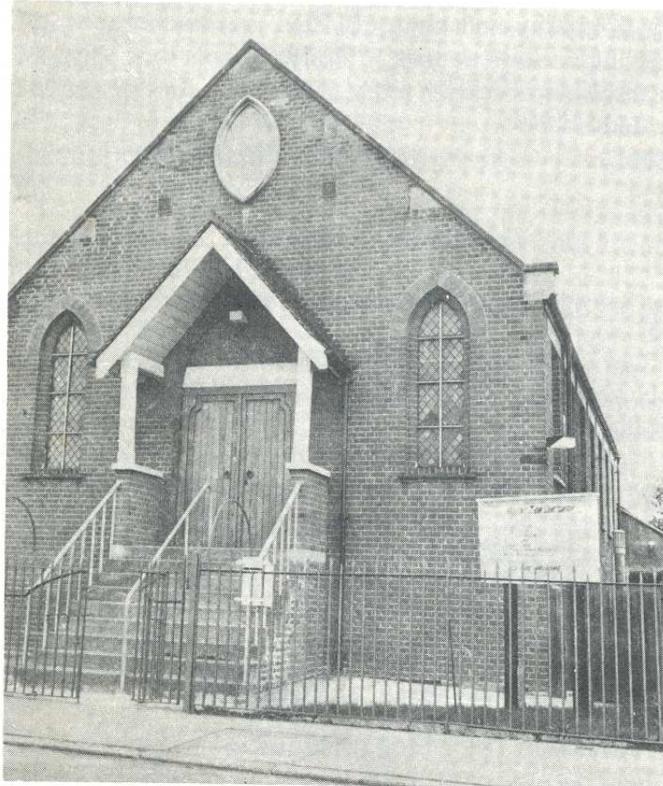
JERUSALEM — GLORY OF THE PAST, HOPE OF THE FUTURE: CITY FROM WHICH THE LORD WILL RULE THE EARTH. ISAIAH 24:21.

The Lord's Work Around The World ...

Praise the Lord! His work around the world is pressing onward, and many precious people are being reached with the message of salvation so vital to these times we live in. Our co-workers in many countries are working hard, and many souls are being saved. We wish we had the room to share with you all the many good reports and testimonies we constantly receive, but we will devote a few pages of The Mt. Zion Reporter to this from time to time, as space allows. Please pray with us that the Heavenly Father will bless His people around the world, and that He will pour out His Spirit on all of us, everywhere, making us true soul-winners — shining lights in a darkening world.

— Gordon Fauth

"Not the hearers of the Law are just before God, but the doers of the Law shall be justified." — Rom. 2:13.



The Mount Zion Sanctuary (7th day), Surrey, England, under Pastor E.S. Henry. This Church building was newly dedicated on June 14, 1981. We rejoice with the brethren of the Mount Zion Sanctuary as the Lord continues to move in their midst.

Report of the Lord's work in Poduru, India

Elder Matthew (overseer of India) reports that their Gospel messengers are conducting campaigns in many different villages and meeting with much success, even as much that requests have been received from Hindu villagers many miles away asking that the Gospel be brought to their village as well. Many souls have been baptized, and more and more are becoming interested in His Word.

We praise the Lord as new doors and new hearts are opening to His salvation message. Hallelujah!

In recent Gospel campaigns the children of the A.N. Dugger Memorial Orphanage, formed musical processions through villages, joyously witnessing of the "Mighty Messiah" and Heavenly Father. These efforts have met with good results for the Kingdom, and we praise the Lord for such dear workers in His harvest.



Elder A.N. Dugger Memorial Orphanage in Poduru, India



Baptismal service in Poduru, India.

Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest.

John 4:35.

More Than A Desire

by Sarah Fauth

It is very commendable for the child of God to have a desire to do more for His Lord. Surely we need more Heavenly oriented desires in the congregation. It should be on the heart of every believer to receive a greater desire and burden to save the lost. We should pray for a desire to save a dying world. However, let us not be fooled into believing that this alone is sufficient. A Godly desire is not an end in itself, it is merely a prompt to do the action.

It is expedient that we first have the desire to accomplish for the Lord (whatever it might be). However, this desire should not be allowed to become stale. We should never forget the fact that the desire is not "the achievement" but only the first in a series, one of the many requirements to be met before the job is done. The first step, then, is to have the desire; the second, and not less important, is to fulfil the desire with the action. God prompts us by placing good desires in our hearts; we should, and must, act on these "Heavenly prompts" if there are going to be any end results.

Too often we make the mistake of rating ourselves by our desires and not our achievements. We tend to be of the impression that whoever has the most sincere and deepest felt desire towards a Godly cause is the one who should feel the most satisfied and the one who "has it made" in the Lord. The error of this could not be over emphasized.

It is most important to have an all-out feeling for the righteous cause, but to stop with just this and not do anything to fulfil it, puts its value only as that of

an emotional kind and nothing of further significants.

To feel that one has "made it" in the Lord, and is being favoured just because he has a great desire to further God's cause, could not be farther from the truth. When God gives us a desire, he is not giving us a medal. In fact it is quite the other way around; He is giving us a test sheet. God is not saying, "Well done. I'm pleased with you. You're really on the top of it with me." He's saying, "Get out of bed. Here's your chance to prove yourself." The rating is done by the results which you put on the test sheet, not by the fact that you were given the test sheet. Still, often we foolishly take God's test sheet, a Godly desire, and instead of putting it to the use it was meant for, we use it to feed our Christian egos. Selfishness is close at hand in such cases, and, for another vice, laziness could also not be far off. The way these work is they make us feel so happily smug about the great desire God has placed in our heart, that we put our feet up and savour its taste in our mouths, remaining thus idle, until we have sucked it all away, and, little do we know we have flunked the test.

The Lord gives us plenty of berry bushes to pick and even the desire to make "the pie", but as children will do, we often eat the berries on the spot and, as a consequence, one hardly ever sees "the pie". We may have the right desire, but not the power over self to back it up. "*The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*" Matthew 26:41.

It takes more than a desire! □

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM TO ALL NATIONS

"This gospel 'of the Kingdom' shall be preached in all the world as a witness to all nations, then shall the end come." Matthew 24:14.

When this statement was made there was no nation of the Jews or of Israel. This country was part of the Roman empire and ruled over by Caesars, and subordinate kings like Herod. There was not a nation of Israel for more than 2,500 years, until in 1948, when this new nation was miraculously born, in due time, and exactly as announced.

Now there is a nation here on the mountains of Israel, in the old land of Canaan granted by promise to Abraham and his seed. While it is one of the very smallest on earth, it is destined to grow. It was spoken of by our Saviour and illustrated by the "smallest of seeds to become the greatest of herbs." Matthew 13: 31, 32.

The hand of the Almighty is visibly seen in the events transpiring here in many ways. Prophecy is fulfilling. The Word is being vindicated, by passing events and by conditions on every hand, and there is a

work being done here, according to Ezekiel 36:26, 27.

Jeremiah the prophet also speaks of this time thus: "*Turn O backsliding children, saith the Lord; for I am married unto you, and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and will bring you to Zion: And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.*" Jeremiah 3:14, 15.

He also speaks further on this theme: "*I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their fold, and they will be fruitful and increase, And I will set shepherds over them which shall feed them, neither shall they be lacking, said the Lord.*" Jeremiah 23:3, 4.

The apostle Paul also adds some strong testimony thus: "*Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved. For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness, because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth.*" Romans 9:27, 28. □

Life in Israel

by Naomi Fauth

Shalom in the name of the Messiah.

Greetings to all our friends around the world.

Another month has come and gone and we here in Jerusalem are well and continuing on in His love.

Spring is here now; the sun is shining brightly and there are many flowers blooming. Especially wild flowers which cover every empty lot and hillside. The usually dry desert hills of the Judean Wilderness, stretching on down toward the Dead Sea, are covered with springtime greenery, and speckled with herds of sheep and goats, belonging to the Bedouin tent-dwellers of the desert. Around mid-summer these same hills will be dry and bare, but still you will see shepherds and shepherdesses with large flocks of sheep and goats searching for every last blade of grass and dry desert bush. It makes me marvel at how they manage to survive in such a dry barren land. The words of David in the 23rd Psalms, "*The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want,*" have a greater impact when one sees these herds in the wilderness, for if human shepherds can care for their sheep on those dry sun-kissed desert hills, surely the Lord, who is the good shepherd, can care for His people. David must have felt this deeply as he led His flock of sheep across these same Judean Hills.

Shepherds with their herds are a very common part of the landscape of Israel. Even large cities are not without flocks of sheep and goats, feeding in empty lots, and being herded along the busy roadways.

Just about every morning during the springtime, and much of the summer, the neighborhood goatman here in the district of Abu-Tor, grazes his goats and sheep on the hill above our house. This morning, as they often do, the younger children have gone out to play with the goats and to keep them from coming down the steep descent into our garden, where they would make a meal of our fruit trees.

Although our garden is very small, it does boast a few medium sized fruit trees: one orange, two plum, one lemon and one almond. The almond tree just appeared one day. The other trees were planted long before we moved into the house. All provide good fruit, when in season, except for the orange tree, which is wild and therefore the fruit is very sour and cannot be eaten.

In a few weeks the plum and almond trees should bloom; it will also be time for the many wild olive trees in the valley below (the Kidron Valley), to blossom. They blossom with a fuzzy yellow flower and are always a beautiful sight to behold.

Our two youngest children, Michael, 9, and Reuben, 10, have just informed me of another sign that spring is here, their bunny has had babies. They have been waiting for over a year for this to happen and are very excited about it. There must be about 8 offspring but one cannot tell for sure as they are all snuggled together

in the nest and it is not safe to disturb them at this stage.

The holiday of Purim (Esther 9:26-28) has just past. There was much rejoicing in the land of Israel and the usual masquerading by children, parading down the streets in various costumes from the book of Esther, though with the more modern masqueraders dressed as cowboys, Indians, clowns and Robinhoods, etc. This year, as usual, the traditional Purim pastry (called Haman's ears) was exchanged between neighbors, and gifts were distributed, by school children all over the country, to the aged and poor. Although Purim is a time of happy rejoicing in the Land of Israel, and an especially fun holiday for the children, it is also a time of grave remembrance; when the book of Esther is reread and the Jewish people meditate upon God's miraculous deliverance of their forefathers. By a people whose existence is still seriously threatened by enemies all around, the memorial of Purim is remembered with deep understanding and feeling for the plight of the Jews of the ancient empire of King Ahasuerus which extended even as far as Ethiopia, Esther 1:1.



The two children in the photo above are dressed as Queen Esther and King Ahasuerus from the book of Esther.

It is seemingly ironic that the Jewish community in Ethiopia today, is at this time being severely persecuted by the present regime there, a tragedy which cast a dark cloud over the Feast of Purim this year, and caused many prayers to be made that God would again send deliverance to the Jews of that land as He did in times past and as is recorded in the book of Esther, in the Bible.



Israeli children in costumes celebrating Purim, Esther 9:26-28.

Our neice, Anita Youngs, the daughter of my older sister, Orabelle, has recently arrived from the U.S.A. for a visit. We are happy to have her with us. It is the first time we have seen her in many years. Also visiting are two sisters from Holland, who will be staying for a couple of weeks. In previous years they resided for a time in Jersualem, and worked here at the publishing house. It is nice seeing and visiting with them again.

The Gospel work is continuing on. Praise His Name! We thank the Lord for His grace which permits us to carry on and for every opportunity to further the message of salvation. Here in the Land of Israel, the fields are ripening more and more as the veil is lifted from the eyes of His people.

Yes, the time is soon coming when Israel will say of their Messiah and King, "*Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.*"

Please pray for the Lord's work here and '*pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee.*'

Peace be with you,
Naomi Fauth



The Most Guilty

The final signs are with us. The prophet Daniel wrote of our days saying, "*and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time. . .many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake*". The people of God "*shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book*". Daniel 12:1-3.

Our times — the mighty preparations for war; the colossal amount devoted to ruin and death; the rising of the Israeli State preparatory to our Lord's return — all these pin-point our Age as the one referred to by our Saviour. His words of warning and prophetic forecast are of tremendous interest to those who love God and look for better days, more so because He is to be the King of kings, and is to put down all rule, and all authority and power and enemies (1Corinthians 15: 24, 25; Revelation 19:16).

His comparsion of our days with those of Noah and of Sodom is of special interest and of solemn warning. He draws the parallel in Matthew 24:37-39 and also Luke 17:26-37. Violence and corruption filled the earth in Noah's day and sexual wickedness and all form of iniquity were found in Sodom. Our Age has much in common, for what is tolerated or glossed over in our days caused the wrath of God to be visited upon the earth in the days of Noah and Sodom. Days of violence! What era could match ours for violence, bloodshed,

racial antipathy, ruin and death by war?

Is it any wonder that the Creator, who created this world for His pleasure (Revelation 4:11) has to intervene to preserve it for His Son. Listen to the summary of the days of Noah, "*And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. . .and the earth was filled with violence*" Genesis 6:5. The reckoning day came nearly 1,600 years after the creation.

Now, nearly 4,400 years later, the whole long blood-stained record of 6,000 years is nearly complete. Our generation is the most guilty. We have the history of the past to guide us. It is the most God-dishonouring. The Lord Jesus saw it afar off and in Luke 21:24-27 He warned, "*And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory*".

The nations have had many years of warning in mighty signs and judgements, but how very few see the red light indicating that God is about to judge the world with still mightier judgements! And yet, in these most responsible times His hand is still outstretched to all who will call upon Him. "*The Lord will be the hope of His people*," says Joel 3:16, and safety in the day of trouble is guaranteed in the words of Isaiah 26:20, 21. Surely, this should stir you to action! □

— from New Jerusalem Fellowship

Extracts From Readers' Letters

KENTUCKY, U.S.A. —

To whom it may concern;

Praise the name of Jesus! Greetings in the name of our Lord!

I am an inmate here at The Federal Correctional Institute, and am on fire for the Lord.

Please, I would like to subscribe to your publication but I can't send you the fee now. Being in prison just won't allow it. But I want your newspaper so badly.

I'll be out of here at the end of 1983 and I could pay you then, or sooner, if I can find a way.

Your Reporter sounds so exciting. I've only been saved for 10 months now and I have a craving for more and more information on Jesus and Jerusalem.

I hope you don't mind me writing and asking for this special request. I realize that the cost of everything is so high nowadays that free-bees are sometimes impossible. But nothing is impossible if you know the Lord.

I have been conducting a "Jews for Jesus" meeting once a week. Many are coming to know the Lord daily, right here in prison.

Thank you ahead of time for understanding my situation. I leave a lot of things up to the Lord and getting a subscription to *The Mount Zion Reporter* is another one. God bless you richly.

Sincerely in Jesus,
M.A.

ENGLAND. —

Dear Brother Fauth,

Once again I send greetings in our dear Lord's mighty name. Thank you for your letters and Reporter faithfully sent giving the important and latest news of Israel.

The weather here was intensely cold and wintry for a few weeks but since about the middle of last week it has been less cold and snowy and we now have some rain, however, no matter what the conditions are, our dear and wonderful God protects and blesses and cares for each one of us. Bless His Holy Name! I know He loves, watches and guides you too, and will always be with you and yours.

Well dear brother, I want to reach the post soon, so take pleasure in enclosing a gift for God's work to be used as you know best, and take this opportunity of committing you, your dear wife and co-workers into our dear God's hands and know He will continue to bless you all abundantly.

Christian love,
G.V.W.

SWEDEN. —

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Greetings in His Holy Name!

Thank you for the letter, it is always a great comfort and joy to me to hear that you are well and going on with His work in spreading the Gospel message there and around the world.

One can't forget Jerusalem. If one does, than one has forgotten Jesus too; as I think it is for this sake most Christians are interested in Israel and Jerusalem, and now it seems to be near the time when Jerusalem is becoming "a burdensome stone" and "a cup of trembling".

I'm in need of, and am grateful for your prayers. Let us pray for one another.

Your Sister in Christ,
K.L.

CAMEROON.

Dear Brethren,

Greetings to you in the uniting name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I am a fellow servant of yours, serving the Master in this part of the vineyard. May I express our need of Gospel literature.

I will be very happy in the Lord, brethren, if you will help us in our plight.

I am your co-worker in the Lord,
A.K.M.

VENEZUELA.

Dear Sister Naomi,

Holy greetings in Jesus' name,

Your magazine Reporter I have received and I'm indeed glad to receive it. I found it very interesting as I read it, page to page. I'm grateful to God for letting me know you people by your Reporter, tracts etc., and helping me to be a part of this wonderful family of God.

I pray the Lord will bless you all, as you continue to establish His work all over the world.

Yours in the Master's service,
D.M.

CALIFORNIA, U.S.A. —

Greetings in the Name of Yeshua Meshicheynu,

The Mount Zion Reporter is shared amongst our Jewish-Gentile Fellowship.

It was interesting to read in Naomi Fauth's article "Life in Israel", August 1981, No. 5, that the construction has begun on the steps leading down into the Jordan waters for Christian baptismal services.

Last February, a segment of a love gift designated for the building of these steps was given to the Ministry of Tourism by Christian Zionist's from Calvary Chapel of Santa Ana, California. The thought was that Israel should not need to go to the expense of such an improvement that didn't benefit all tourists. And in a small way, we could have a part in building up Israel. This is not meant for any recognition, but simply for the facts, as the glory belongs to the Lord.

It's always good to hear of Israel, for world political movements are developing exactly to prophetic words of the Bible.

Shalom,
K.B.

TRINIDAD, WEST INDIES. —

Dear Brother Fauth,

May grace, peace and mercy from our Heavenly Father and from Yashua be with you and all the Reporter Staff.

I thank our Heavenly Elohim for His continual care and blessings that He showers upon you and all that love Jerusalem.

The Mount Zion Reporter reached me safely and I am indeed thankful for them, because they keep in tune on what is happening in the Middle East.

I am sending a small donation to assist in that great work that you are doing. May God bless you all richly.

A.G.

“The Night Cometh”

by W.C. Moore

Every Moment Counts

What are we doing with Jesus — what are we doing for Him? The glorious opportunities which we enjoy today, were bought at the price of Jesus' life blood and His agony in Gethsemane. Do we begin, even dimly, to appreciate the privileges obtained at such a price? Are we, in full, redeeming the time? Are we doing all we can, day and night, by every means we can, to help spread the Gospel?

As Christians, we should love the souls of both rich and poor, and we should pray for “all men” (1 Timothy 2:1-8). We should avoid “taking sides” — for the devil is at the back of things, fomenting strife. Communism is anti-God, and we are, of course, utterly against it — whether advocated by the college professor or by the working man. But we emphatically are not against any “class” or any “race” of people — for Jesus died for all!

The Lawless One

“Then shall that Wicked” (lawless one, margin) “be revealed. . . Even him, whose coming is after the work of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; Because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12.

Watch and Pray! Be Aroused!

It is by no means enough that we should have confident trust in the Lord, as we go along day by day, walking in the light of His word — but we need to obey His word — we need to be alert. Note these startling, awakening words from the lips of our Master, the Lord Jesus, the head of the Church:

“Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.” Luke 21:36. *“Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon the world; to try them that dwell upon the earth.”* Revelation 3:10.

Now is the time to heed these stirring words of the Son of God, our Lord and our Saviour!

The Lord did not give these terrific warnings without purpose. Let us heed, now, His voice and escape the fearful judgements that are surely coming on this Christ-rejecting world. *“For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.”* 1 Corinthians 11:31.

Let us now employ our time, our strength, our money, our talents of all kinds — in the glorious service of our coming Lord — before. . . the *“Beast. . . 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. . .”*

“And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive the mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that hath the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.” Revelation 13:11-17.

ASTONISHING



**the midnight hour
IS NEAR**

Their Terrible Doom

“If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture. . . And he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone. . . And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever.” Revelation 14:9-11.

“NOW” — Is God’s Time!

Brothers! Sisters! Let us now face the facts, and redeem the time (Ephesians 5:16), while the doors of opportunity are open wide — before — *“The night cometh, when no man can work.”* John 9:4. May the blessed Lord make these things very real to our hearts, and may He give us grace to go forward — in the very centre of His will! □

— from *“Herald of His Coming”*

HELP SPREAD THE GOSPEL!

We are urgently in need of funds for printing tracts, booklets, books and other materials, both in English and in other languages. There is a very great demand, and we are hard put to meet it. The cost of paper, postage, ink, etc. has been going up at a tremendous rate, and our publishing ministry has become very expensive. We need your help, and any amount sent in for this work will be put to good use in doing the Will of the Lord. Pray about it!

GOOD HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICINE

When looking back in History, it can be said that the world and the human race today have come a long way. This can also be said of the world of medicine. Originating from such uncomplimentary sources as the Voo Doo's of Africa, Rome, Greece and the East, medicine has established itself as one of the greatest virtues of the modern world. Rising to eliminate the plaques that swept the earth at large in olden days, it has solved some of the worst problems of mankind, and is one of the most trusted and looked-up-to features of our times.

Medicine is no longer a memorized chant or the waving of a holy reed. It is a scientific complex business, a business which humanitarians have contributed to through the centuries dedicating life times of research and energy. It is a booming business. Thus, today there is a little pill to take for about any thing under the sun.

Straying from the complimentary and complicated subject of modern medicine, let's take a look at some simple words found in the Bible, coming from the Creator of the whole complex universe, and meant for all times and ages. "*The fruit thereof shall be for meat and the leaf for medicine.*" Ezekiel 47:12.

Today's medical doctors are only just beginning to discover the great value of natural medicines in contrast to the unnatural pill popping remedies subscribed today.

Herbalists are gaining more prestige and the wonderful healing powers of herbs are being proven more and more as the medical world progresses in this field of research.

Yes, the world has come a long way in the study of medicine, and it is overflowing with wisdom and enlightenment. An interesting thing to note is that the Bible has something to say about this too. "*And in those days knowledge shall be increased.*" Daniel 12:4. I don't think I need argue that these present days are the ones to which this verse applies. The last hundred years, as never before, have experienced this great increase of knowledge. And, let us not forget, along with knowledge comes the ability to acknowledge God's Word as truth.

Natural Cures

Listed below are some natural cures for a few common disorders of health.

Colds — Vinegar is good for head colds, and Cayenne Pepper will help cure a stomach cold. Also good for colds are: Comfrey, Peppermint, Ginger, Sage, Thyme, and Hyssop.

Dizziness — Peppermint will fight off fits of dizziness.

Fevers — Mistletoe, Sage, Ginger, Catnip, Hyssop, Barberry, Pennyroyal, Cayenne, Bayberry and Thyme will help cure all kinds of fever.

Headaches — Vervain, Lady's Slipper, Catnip, Skullcap, Peppermint and Thyme will help cure headaches.

Hoarseness — Licorice and Horseradish are good for a hoarse throat.

Indigestion — Myrrh, Cod Liver Oil and White Poplar.

Nerves — Oats, Golden Seal, Lady's Slipper, Wild Cherry, Hops, Sage and Mistletoe are good for soothing

and strengthening nerves.

Sleep — Thyme, Catnip, Lady's Slipper, Hops, Skullcap, Vervain, Valerian, Motherwort and Asafoetida help those suffering from insomnia to get a good nights sleep.

Sunstroke — Pennyroyal is good for those suffering from sunstroke or exhaustion from overheat.

Sunburn — Aloes helps sunburn. Also, for sunburn on the face, a wash with Cucumbers is helpful.

Veins — Sassafras and Witch Hazel are good for varicose veins.

High Blood Pressure — Black Cohosh and Cayenne are good for high blood pressure. □

HEALTHFUL HINTS

- ♦ Every new day seems to bring to light another cancer causing element. One fact which should be remembered is that a healthy body can better fight off these harmful elements which cause the most dreaded diseases of our time.

Vitamins play an important part in maintaining a healthy body and it has been proven, by various doctors, that a moderate vitamin intake reduces the risk of cancer.

- ♦ Those who are looking for variation in a healthful diet, may be interested to know that sea weeds are some of the most nutritious foods existing.

In the many different edible sea plants, can be found: very large amounts of vitamins, proteins, minerals, trace elements, carbohydrates, and even fats and oils.

Not too much scientific research has been done on these under-water vegetables as of yet, but, it is anticipated that much more helpful information will be discovered in this field in the future.



BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE

Let us not forget that our troubles have a purpose. They are the fruitful seeds of future glories for the Christian. They are blessings in disguise. They are like the early processes of the garden, when the soil is broken up and weeded in order that the fair flowers may at length adorn it. They are the medicine of our convalescence, the drudgery of our education, without which we can never be really healthy or happy, fit for heaven or qualified to bring forth fruit that will glorify our Lord.

— from "Herald of His Coming"

LIFT UP YOUR HANDS!

"Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord. The Lord that made heaven and earth BLESS THEE OUT OF ZION." — Psalms 134:2, 3.

Questions And Answers

QUESTION. —

I have heard that in Israel there is over 100-per-cent inflation, that taxes are outrageously high, and that there is much poverty in the land. Is this true?

ANSWER. —

It is true that inflation is very rampant in Israel. The inflation rate is about 103-per-cent, at present, but despite this the Israeli economy does considerably well.

The people here do not live in poverty. They are industrious and hard working, and on the average, though not wealthy, well off.

There are very good national services for the poor, and a national health service which includes the whole public.

It is true that there are high taxes here on certain items, i.e. those which are considered "luxury items". Such as: cars, T.V.'s, and airconditioners etc. However, recently taxes for these things have been lowered somewhat.

Surrounded by hostile countries, as this land is, security is a very real concern and Israel has to spend a great amount of money for defence and security. This is the reason for the high taxes here and also the main reason for inflation. Although, as I have said before, the Israeli economy is good and the people do not live in poverty.

QUESTION. —

Much is heard about the Palestinian refugees, the Arab people who occupied the land called Israel today. Am I mistaken in believing that before 1948 when the Jews and Arabs fought over the land and the Jews won causing much of the Arab population to flee, that there were virtually no Jews in Palestine?

THREE BLESSINGS FOUND IN JESUS CHRIST

FORGIVENESS OF SINS: "... that through His name whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins." Acts 10:43.

PEACE WITH GOD: "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1.

TOTAL RENEWAL: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17.

THREE THINGS IN WHICH TO CONTINUE

IN PRAYER: "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving." Colossians 4:2.

IN JESUS' WORD: "Then said Jesus, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed." John 8:31.

IN LOVE: "Let brotherly love continue." Hebrews 13:1.

THREE THINGS THAT WE KNOW

WE KNOW THAT: "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28.

WE KNOW THAT: "... if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." 2 Corinthians 5:1.

WE KNOW THAT: "... when He shall appear, we shall

ANSWER. —

It is true when the Romans drove the Jews out of this land in 70 AD, after the Jewish people had occupied the land for one thousand and six hundred years, that there were only a minority of Jews left in Israel. And, as Arab people from nearby countries moved to this land, they gradually became a majority. However, in studying the Jewish and Arab population of Palestine directly before 1948, the Jewish population was growing rapidly, as Jews from other nations begin immigrating to Palestine, under British rule, and it was estimated that the Jews would, by all normal and lawful procedures, be the majority in the land by 1948.

In regards to the Arab population having to leave because of the Jewish take-over: This is not true. The Arabs who left their homes left before the Jews gained control. They were not driven out as is so erroneously believed by many, but infact, were compelled to leave their homes by various Arab authorities and countries long before it was determined that the Jews would gain control of Palestine; For the surrounding Arab countries and the Arab population as a whole believed that the Jews did not have a chance of winning the war, and would be slaughtered off by their armies. In order to avoid mistaking Arabs for Jews and exterminating them as well, the Arab inhabitants of Palestine, (remember there were many Palestinian Jews too) were advised by neighboring Arab countries, over the local radio stations, to leave until the business was over.

Note: Anyone interested in knowing more about the Arab and Jewish conflict in the geographical land of Israel, should read "The Arab-Israeli Conflict" which can be ordered on page 23.

be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is." 1 John 3:2.

THREE THINGS THAT ARE BETTER

"**BETTER** is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith." Proverbs 15:16.

"It is **BETTER** to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man."

"To obey is **BETTER** than sacrifice." 1 Samuel 15:22.

THREE DUTIES OF BELIEVERS

TO GROW: "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3:18.

TO GLOW: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matthew 5:16.

TO GO: "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15.

THREE RESOURCES ALWAYS AVAILABLE

GOD'S RICHES: "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19.

GOD'S PRESENCE: "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Psalm 23:4.

GOD'S STRENGTH: "The salvation of the righteous is of the Lord; He is their strength in the time of trouble." Psalm 37:39.

— from "Grace and Glory"

The Ark of the Covenant

by The Reporter Staff

One of the most intriguing artifacts mentioned in the Bible is the Ark of the Covenant.

Just what is the Ark? The Ark is the chest containing the original tablets of the Ten Commandments, the only known artifact given to mankind, through God's infinite power; by His own hand. The Ark was built by the instruction of God (Exodus 25). God used the Ark to communicate with the Israelites, as a gateway to His powerful throne. Exodus 25:22, "*And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the Ark of the testimony.*"

The description of the Ark, as found in Exodus, states that the length of the Ark is two and a half cubits (4ft. 2in.), its width and height: a cubit and a half (30in.) and its material that of acacia wood, overlaid with gold surrounding it above. Attached to its feet are four golden rings, two on both sides, where the staffs to carry the Ark were mounted. The cover to the Ark, which is made of pure gold, with dimensions the same as those of the Ark, has two Cherubim with wings outstretched, one on each side of the cover facing each other. According to the Bible, these Cherubim, each five cubits long, were to protect the Ark and its contents.

In Studying the many Biblical references concerning the Ark, one can see evidence of the great and terrible power it could, in certain circumstances, summon:

- ♦ The Jordan River dried up when the Ark preceded the people, (Joshua 3:4).
- ♦ The walls of Jericho came tumbling down when circled by the Ark seven times, (Joshua 6).
- ♦ There was a strict prohibition against the touching of the Holy Ark by unauthorized hands — "*Uzzah put forth his hand to the Ark of God and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the Ark of God.*" 2 Samuel 6:6,7.
- ♦ Even the high priests had to approach the Ark with caution, (Leviticus 16:2,13).
- ♦ The Philistines were smitten with plagues after capturing the Ark, (1 Samuel 5).
- ♦ Because they had gazed upon the Ark, the men of Beth Shemesh were smitten with death, (1 Samuel 6:19).

The terrifying powers of the Ark were perhaps best demonstrated when the Israelites carried it into battle. They were unconquerable. The presence of the Ark in the Israelite camp insured God's help. When the Ark was set out to battle, Moses would say, "*Advance Oh Lord! May your enemies be scattered, and may your foes flee before you!*" This would summon awesome powers. When the Ark halted, and its job was done, Moses would say, "*Return Oh Lord! You who are Israel's myriads of thousands.*"

There have been numerous finds of sacred chests and arks but none have yet met the description, appearance or functions of the Holy Ark of the Covenant.

What became of the Ark is a mystery. There is no established proof as to what became of the Ark or of where it is today. There are, however, a few hints and theories carried down through the centuries in ancient writings and traditions, most of which differ from one another. Some hold that the Ark was hidden in a secret compartment underneath the Second Temple, others that it was carried away to Babylon during the Babylonian conquest of Jerusalem. Still others say that the prophet Jeremiah hid the Ark in a cave on the same mountain from which Moses viewed the promised land before he died. However, whether any of these accounts is correct, is yet to be seen. Just as Biblical scholars and men of old were interested in establishing the whereabouts of the lost Ark, so are many today. Infact, everyone these days seems to be looking for the lost Ark of the Covenant.

Hollywood recently spent \$20 million to make a movie called "Raiders of the Lost Ark". It was an immediate box-office success, and has spurred new interest in the subject. Interestingly enough, a former top official of the World-Wide Church of God, Stanley Rader, is currently involved in a lawsuit over this movie, which he says is based on an idea originated by himself and an associate, Robert Kuhn. In a TV interview, Rader said: "In 1968 we began to dig in Jerusalem and from that time forward, Kuhn and I knew that eventually there would be a very good chance that we would discover the Ark of the Covenant. And in 1976, he decided that it might be a good idea to anticipate that by writing a screenplay or a screen treatment. I encouraged him to do so."

For years different religious organizations, institutions, and private individuals have been coming up with various theories regarding the location of the Ark, all the way from the Jordanian hills to the Negev and Sinai deserts, and from the Judean hills to Jerusalem's Mount Zion and Mount Olives.

Wherever a chamber, cave, or crevice in a hill is discovered, it seems that someone is purely convinced they have found the resting place of the lost Ark. There have been numberless stories in circulation for the past 30 years or more concerning the finding and location of the Ark of the Covenant. One, which we find interesting, involves our church building overlooking Mount Zion and Mount Olives. Curiously enough, there is a chamber in the back of the church enclosed by two metal doors, and leading into three different underground tunnels. Individuals who have explored these dark passageways have found that one ends in a cave in, one in an underground spring and one goes for quite some distance downward before ending abruptly with a stone wall. At one time a few of the stones were taken out, but not enough to enable one to pass through to the other side. Therefore, no one knows what lies beyond. We have heard much speculation in regards to the Ark's presence in this cave although no one has proven or disproven them. According to our observation, this seems to be the general rule. There have been

many stories have speculated hiding places of the Ark, and even some alledged discoveries, but as of yet none of them have been documented or proven in any way. This does not mean that they have not tried to establish proof pertaining to the whereabouts of the Ark. Many have.

Recently there has been a story in circulation regarding the finding of the Ark in a cave in the mountains of Jordan, which has gained some press coverage. Reportedly, the Ark was found by a four-man expedition belonging to a Kansas-based religious group. The Ark was said to be found in the mountains above the Dead Sea, 55 kilometres south of Amman, Jordan, behind a sealed passageway in a cave on Mount Pisgah. The mountain is reputedly full of caves with honeycombed passageways. The alledged discoverers said that they have taken pictures of the Ark. They describe it as a very large gold-covered chest, 1.20 metres wider, 1.5 metres long, and 1.10 metres tall, with golden Cherubim wings on each side of a mercy seat.

In their search, they alledgedly encountered a cement-like seal over the passageway to the Ark and used a pick-ax to break through. They said they did not disturb the Ark, and a member said his first instinct was not to touch it. He also said they would not release the pictures of the Ark until they are shown to international Jewish banker, David de Rothschild, who they feel can help them with the Jordanian Government and the Vatican. (They did not explain how the Vatican is



"Uzzah put forth his hand to the Ark of God and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah; and the Lord smote him there for his error; and there he died by the Ark of the Lord." 2 Samuel 6:6, 7.

envolved). They believe the finding of the Ark of the Covenant will assist in restoring the Temple to Jerusalem, and to prepare the way for the second coming of Christ, which they think will be in September or October of 1988. Time will no doubt tell us whether or not this discovery is authentic. Until then, it might be best to remain skeptical, for the voice of proof is yet to be heard.

No doubt, as time goes on, we will see and hear of more alledged discoveries of the Ark of the Covenant. But it would be interesting to know in view of all the terrifying references found in the Bible concerning the Ark, if there is one who deems himself worthy enough

to disturb the powerful presence of God which is therein.

There are people who believe God's power is not present in the Ark anymore, so therefore it would be safe to disturb it. However, this is unproven, as the Ark has not been found, and many believe it never will be.

In examining the evidence, it is not at all clear whether or not the Ark of the Covenant is meant to be discovered, or, if indeed it is in a place where it can be discovered. One fact that stands out, though, is that interest and belief in the Ark is widespread and intense, the whole business tending to give an impression of real authenticity to God's Word, the Bible, as a testimony to people who would like to shrug it all off as part of a fairy tale.

THE POWER OF EXAMPLE

A great preacher closed his sermon with an earnest gospel appeal. Among the score or more who responded was a woman of wealth and social distinction. She asked permission to speak a few words to the audience.

"I want you to know," she said, "just why I came forward tonight. It was not because of any word spoken by the preacher. I stand here because of the influence of a little woman who sits before me. Her fingers are rough from toil. The hard work of many years has stooped her low. She is just a poor, obscure washerwoman, who has served in my home for many years. I have never known her to be impatient, speak an unkind word, or do a dishonorable deed. I know of countless little acts of unselfish love that adorn her life.

"Shamefacedly, let me say that I have openly sneered at her faith and laughed at her fidelity to God. Yet when my little girl was taken away, it was this woman who caused me to look beyond the grave and shed my first tear of hope. The sweet magnetism of her life has led me to Christ. I covet the thing that has made her life so beautiful."

At the request of the minister, the little woman was led forward, her eyes streaming with glad tears, and such a shining face as one seldom sees on this earth.

"Let me introduce you," he said, "to the real preacher of the evening," and the great audience arose in silent, though not tearless, respect.

Oh, ye obscure toilers of the world, ye patient "doers of the Word", think not that no one sees; I say unto you that a great cloud of witnesses will rise up on that great day, and call you blessed!

— from "First Baptist Beacon"

ISRAELI HEART PACEMAKER DEVELOPED

An Israeli-manufactured heart pacemaker was exhibited for the first time at a conference of the Israel Cardiology Association in Zichron Ya'acov.

The pacemaker, which permits physicians to regulate it without an operation, was developed by Dr. Shmuel Ashkenazi of Omikron Scientific, a subsidiary of Danot Industries. Until now pacemakers of this type were imported.

The new device makes it possible to regulate the strength of the stimulus emitted by the pacemaker, its rhythm, its period of emission, and its sensitivity to electric signals from the heart.

The Church Today Needs A Call To Arms

by Fred D. Jarvis

Too many hearts are overcharged with surfeiting and the cares of life (Luke 21:34). Too many receive honor one of another which comes from heaven only (John 5:44).

Too many have their affections set on things of earth, not on things above (Colossians 3:2). Too many are entangled with the affairs of this life (2 Timothy 2:4). Too many are lovers of pleasure, more than lovers of God, having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof (2 Timothy 3:4, 5).

May God help us to break up the fallow ground (Hosea 10:12). May God help us to follow on to know the Lord — until there shall be showers of blessings! (Hosea 6:3; Ezekiel 34:26).

Too long we have been slack to possess the land (Joshua 18:3). Too few come to help the Lord (Judges 5:23). Too many “put not their necks to the work of the Lord.” (Nehemiah 3:5). “Cursed be he who doeth the work of the Lord negligently.” (Jeremiah 48:10). — Translation.

This is a time to strive in prayer; to strive to preach where Christ has not been named; to resist unto blood; striving against sin (Hebrews 12:4). The call of God to the church today is: “Be zealous therefore, and repent.” Revelation 3:19.

It is revival or removal; repent — or else! (Revelation 2:1-5). Modern Christians have everything — but the mighty anointing and blessing of God. This modern Laodicean, lukewarm, “love the Lord, love the world” age cannot cover the shame of its nakedness!

We Need More than Just a Polite “Suggestion” of Repentance!

May God give us eyes that we may see; hearts that we may hear. O the curse of the little strength! We need not a reference to repentance, but a mighty call to cleanse our hearts and humble ourselves before God! Too many serve God so as not to displease the devil.

May God Teach Us to Expend to Expand

May He teach us to go and grow, to spend and send. May God give us victory within and without. Life is too short to be little. To be little with God is to be little for God. May He take away our spiritual littleness and help us to share the gospel abroad, and to declare the gospel at home! We have too many good men, too few souls on fire!

His Ministers Are to Be “A Flame of Fire” (Hebrews 1:7)

He wants to make us faithful and successful. May He empty us of worldliness and self, and fill us with

His blessing and power so that when we speak — men shall hear the voice of the Spirit. May He give us His blessing and make us true soldiers of the cross who are more determined to please our Father above — than our group.

May God give us men who will “speak. . . all the words that I command thee,” and “diminish not a word.” Jeremiah 26:2.

Jeremiah may not have known too much about the power of positive thinking, but he practiced the power of negative preaching. With God’s “Words” in his mouth, he was sent “to root out, and to put down, and to destroy, and to throw down.” (Jeremiah 1:10). May God raise up men today that will cause the people to “know that there has been a prophet among them.” (Ezekiel 2:5). Oh, for men who could say like Micah: “Truly I am full of power by the Spirit of the Lord, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.” Micah 3:8.

My Plea Today Is for Soldiers, Prophets, Men of God!

Soldiers ready to attack, ready to obey the order of Christ our Commander, soldiers bathed with a holy flame. May God teach us all to endure hardships as good soldiers of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 10:3-5; 2 Timothy 2:3, 4; Ephesians 6:10-20), for “the nearer the battlefield a soldier gets, you know, the more he learns to do without, the less he cares for show.” □

SEED TIME

Israel as scattered seeds

Scattered amongst the Nations weeds
Have at last regathered been
To their mountains growing green.

Sown in sorrow and in tears
O'er a thousand mournful years
Sown in bitter winter's breath
Sown in painfulness and death.

Then the Southern streamlets sprang
And Throughout the world there rang
“Back to Israel we must go”
Now the Spring's sweet streamlets flow.

As of yore and yet again
That fair land is strewn with men
Men once fettered, but now free
Home from their captivity.

Joy from tears and sheaves from seed
Fulfil every heartfelt need
Bring in soon O Lord we pray
Israel's complete harvest day.

—by Norman P. Holt

How Our Thoughts Register Our Lives In Heaven

by Jerome Stowell

Dr. N. Jerome Stowell was a scientist working on terrible devices for the destruction of mankind.

His study and experiments on the wave length of the human brain, and the electric power developed in a human being, as it reacted on a very delicate machine, caused him to believe in a supernatural being. His loneliness during the absence of his wife who took a trip, led him to pray during which he received a born again experience, and a complete change over.

In the following he tells of unusual experiments, and wonderful discoveries concerning the human brain. He says:

I was almost a devout atheist. I didn't believe that God was any more than a conglomeration of everyone's mind put together and the good that was there; that was God as far as I was concerned. As for the real, all-powerful God existing and loving us with power over everything, I didn't believe that!

Then one day I had an experience that really set me thinking. I was in a large pathological laboratory and we were attempting to find the wavelength of the brain. We found more than just a wavelength of the brain, we found a channel of wavelengths, and that channel has so much room in it that the different wavelengths of each individual brain is further separated in identity than the finger prints on each individual's hand. This is a point we should remember: God can keep a record in Heaven of our thoughts as individuals just as the F.B.I. can keep a record of our fingerprints in Washington, D.C.

We wanted to make an experiment to discover what took place in the brain at the moment of transition from life to death. We found a lady whose family had sent her to a mental institution, but who had been discharged. The doctor could find nothing wrong with her other than the fact that she had cancer of the brain. This affected the balance of her body only. As far as her alertness of mind was concerned, and every other way, she was exceptionally brilliant. But we knew she was on the verge of death and she was informed in the research hospital that she was going to die.

We arranged a tiny pickup in her room to ascertain what would take place in the transition of her brain from life to death. We also put a very small microphone, about the size of a quarter (25 cents U.S.), in her room so that we could hear what she said if she had anything to say. Five of us, hardened scientists — perhaps I was the hardest and most atheistic of the group — were in an adjoining room with our instruments prepared to register and record what transpired. Our devices had a needle pointing to 0 in the center of a scale. To the right the scale was calibrated to 500 points positive. To the left the scale was calibrated to

500 points negative. We had registered on this instrument the power used by a 50 kilowatt broadcasting station in sending messages around the world. The needle registered 9 points on the positive side.

As the last moments of this woman's life arrived, she began to pray and ask the Lord to be merciful to those who had despitfully used her. Meanwhile also praising Him and His glorious love. Then she reaffirmed her faith in the Almighty, telling Him she knew that He was the living and only power that could save on earth. She told God that He had always been and would be forever. She told Him how much she loved Him!

We scientists had been so engrossed with this woman's prayer that we had forgotten to watch our experiment. We looked at each other and saw tears running down scientific faces. I had not shed tears since I was a child!

Suddenly we heard a clicking sound on our forgotten instrument. We looked and the needle was registering a positive 500 desperately trying to bounce higher, only to hit against the positive post in its attempt.

By actual instrumentation we had recorded that the dying woman's brain in communication with God had registered more than 55 times the power used by a 50 kilowatt broadcast station in sending a message around the world.

After this we decided to try a case very unlike the first one. We chose a man lying in a research hospital striken with a deadly social disease. His brain had become atrophied to the point of death. He was practically a maniac. After we had set up our instruments, we arranged for one of the nurses to antagonize the man. Through her wiles she attracted his interest in her and then suddenly told him that she didn't want any more to do with him. He began to verbally abuse her, and the needle began to register on the negative side. Then he cursed her and took the name of God in vain. The needle suddenly clicked back and forth against the 500 negative post!

By actual instrumentation, we registered what had happened in the brain when that person broke the Ten Commandments, by taking God's name in vain: "Thou shalt not take the name of God in vain."

We established by instrumentation the positive power of God and the negative power of the adversary: We had found that beneficial things are positive and that non-beneficial things covered by the "thou shalt nots" of the Ten Commandments, are negative in varying degrees.

If we scientists can record these things I believe with all my heart that the Lord God can keep a record of our thoughts. He has a better recording system than we have and has more power than any of us on earth. □

NEWS DIRECT FROM ISRAEL

All Items from "The Jerusalem Post"

50 PUPILS IN FIRST ARAB-JEWISH CLASS

The country's first Jewish-Arab integrated class has just been opened in Nazareth, an Education Ministry spokesman announced.

The class is made up of about 50 volunteer Arab and Jewish eighth and ninth graders, selected from several schools in the Jewish Upper Nazareth and Arab Nazareth.

PLO DEFIES UN TO DISPLAY FLAG, MAP

UNITED NATIONS. — The Palestine Liberation Organization delegation to the UN, defying six uniformed guards and efforts by Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim and others, succeeded yesterday in displaying a Palestinian flag and a map which replaced Israel with "Palestine." The UN annual Palestine Solidarity Day was observed yesterday.

The flag and map were displayed in a corridor outside the chamber by Zehdi Terzi, the PLO representative to the UN.

Israel protested to Waldheim and to other UN officials, but despite their efforts the flag and map were displayed all afternoon. According to an Israeli diplomat, Terzi and his aides threatened to use violence against any security guard who tried to remove the flag and map.

Egyptian Youth Have Fun in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV. — Munching toffees, chewing gum, and eating chocolate bars, 60 young Egyptians, members of their country's first youth delegation to Israel, took a whirlwind tour of the Elite factory in Ramat Gan yesterday. They also visited Beth Hatefutsoth, the Shalom tower, the waxwork museum and the Kolbo Shalom department store.

Yesterday's fun in Tel Aviv was in sharp contrast to their sombre experience at Jerusalem's Yad Vashem.

The girls, most in long skirts and blouses — but some in jeans with fashionable boots — walked through the Elite factory separately from the boys. Save for the presence of an American television crew and local reporters, the visit could have been that of a class from a local orthodox Jewish high school.

"They are really well organized," said an Israeli escort, adding that the group's meeting earlier in the day with Israeli high school pupils in Kfar Sava had gone off very well.

Amru Wahab, 14-year-old son of a Cairo businessman and a pupil at the city's Cleopatra school, speaking meticulously correct English, said that he has found Israelis "very good and very friendly."

Asked about the criteria for selecting the group, Amru said he supposed it was "good students with a good manner" who had been picked. The group met for the first time a day before leaving Egypt and was told that Israel was "a very good country."

Libyan-born Yosef Tamam, foreman of Elite's toffee section, chatted in Arabic to a pretty Egyptian girl, and told The Jerusalem Post they were talking about peace and how politicians spoil everything. "She agreed, completely," he said with a smile.

But politics and history were not the Egyptian youngsters' main concern. When they heard "Abba Ni Bi" and "Hallelujah" during their tour of the Shalom

tower complex, they broke into smiles and started to dance to the beat of the music. "I think John Travolta is fantastic I really like Julio Iglesias, too," one of the girls volunteered.

The group was enthusiastic about Tel Aviv, and took turns at gazing through the tower's telescopes, down to the city below. They were equally anxious to spend time and money in Kolbo Shalom, with one of their leaders translating their questions on prices.

Monday's Yad Vashem visit left many of them deeply shocked as they know very little about the Holocaust. Looking at one exhibit, one of the boys asked simply, "How was it possible for men to act this way toward their fellow men?"

It was only last year, said Abdel Raouf, 15, that Egyptian schools started taking any interest in Israel as a peaceful neighbor. His class was presented with a book about the Camp David peace process, something which the group praised with no prompting.

Sophi Swailem, asked by journalists for her impressions so far, produced a small sea-shell. "You ask me what is the most important thing I can take back to Egypt. This shell was given to me by an Israeli high school pupil. I gave her a present, too, and this shell is all I need to remind me of my visit to Israel and the friendship I felt here."

Tel Aviv Pork Dealers in a Bind

TEL AVIV. — The city thinks it is kosher to charge pork processors for veterinary services, although it doesn't allow them to sell the meat. Municipal inspectors recently filed court charges against dozens of owners of restaurants which serve pork and operators of pork cutting and processing plants.

An owner of such a plant told The Jerusalem Post that he often pays as much as thousands of shekels a day to the municipality for the required veterinary inspection of the pork, without which no meat may be sold.

"I asked the inspectors why the city forces me to pay for the inspection and then forbids me to sell the pork," he said. "They answered that it was legal to process pork, but not to sell it. They told me to eat all the pork myself."

Terrorists Abduct Seven S. Lebanese

METULLA. — Seven Lebanese citizens from the South Lebanon villages of Ain Ibel, Rumeish and Aita a-Shaab were kidnapped yesterday by terrorists while travelling in separate cars to Beirut. In each of the seven separate incidents, the victim was stopped at one of the number of roadblocks manned by terrorists.

The kidnappings — of both Moslem and Christian villagers — are seen as a terrorist response to the capture by Major Sa'ad Haddad's Lebanese Christian Forces of a number of terrorists recently.

The incident has sparked a great deal of tension in the area. Speaking yesterday morning on the Voice of Hope radio, Haddad called the terrorist kidnappings a violation of the cease-fire and warned that unless the villagers were returned, he would take grave measures against the terrorists.

A militia spokesman emphasized that the kidnap victims are ordinary villagers and have no connection with Haddad's forces.

RUMANIAN JEWRY IS DISAPPEARING

Rumanian Jewry is disappearing, with almost no marriages and births and more deaths every day, Jewish Agency aliyah department chairman Raphael Kotlowitz has found during a current visit to that country.

Kotlowitz reports that most Rumanian Jews are elderly and many are living on welfare.

At one stop, Tamishra, Kotlowitz learned that two Jewish babies were born this past year (1981), while 65 elderly Jews died, out of the total Jewish population of 1,800. Chief Rabbi Moshe Rosen told him that only 33,000 Jews remain in the country, a smaller figure than commonly believed.

EGYPT, SOVIETS BEGIN MENDING FENCES

Egyptian Foreign Ministry officials yesterday held their first meeting in three months with Soviet embassy representatives in Cairo for what observers viewed as a bid to mend fences between the two countries.

No statement was issued following the meeting, which took place at the office of the Foreign Ministry deputy director-general Kamal Mansour.

Relations between Cairo and Moscow reached a low point when President Anwar Sadat expelled the Soviet ambassador after charging him with incitement against his regime.

Shortly after Sadat's death in October, however, his successor Hosni Mubarak ordered his country's media to observe a moratorium on anti-Soviet attacks. The Soviet Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* this week published an article expressing satisfaction at what it called the new trend in Cairo's policies. The article followed Mubarak's call on Egyptian newspapers to stop attacks on Arab states, his release of over 30 prominent Egyptians Sadat had ordered jailed shortly before his assassination, and his meetings with Sadat's political opponents, including some known for their affiliations with Moscow.

'WE CAN MAKE EVERYTHING WE NEED'

TEL AVIV. — Israel, despite its size, has unlimited potential in the military, industrial and security fields and is able to produce everything it needs to protect itself, said Chief of Staff Rav-Aluf Rafael Eitan.

The only limiting factor is the economic one, and such production over the long period of time would come at the expense of other goods, such as butter, Eitan said at the weekly luncheon of the Industry and Commerce Club in Tel Aviv.

U.S. JEWISH GROUPS WANT WAR OF 'RHETORIC' HALTED

NEW YORK. — The major American-Jewish organizations called on both the Israeli government and the American administration to stop the "rhetorical war" between them and to concentrate on the continuation of the Middle East peace process.

Henry Siegman, the executive director of the American Jewish Congress, told *The Jerusalem Post* that the tough "rhetorical exchange" between the Begin government and the Reagan administration has "distracted attention from the real issues" — the continuation of the Egyptian-Israeli peace process and the American efforts to bring political stability to the Middle East.

He added "It is unfortunate that discussion had deteriorated to such a level," but he is sure the "basic friendship" between the two states will not change.

WOMEN SUCCEED AS IAF TECHNICIANS

HAIFA. — Women soldiers have proved to be excellent Air Force technicians, the IAF Technical School commander said here, and the school is ready to take more.

They have integrated well in classes and training hangers during the three years the programme has existed, he said. "We were quite apprehensive at first. It's a hard course and no one knew how they would stand the pressure," he recalled.

Today they have become "part of the landscape" and enjoy the same status as their male counterparts. The IAF has started to send women for specialized training at the school and wants more to enroll as regular students, he added.

Clad in standard military overalls and ankle-high boots, women used to be an unusual sight in the predominantly male groups at the school — but now the men seem to be used to them. "It took us some time to get used to having a pretty girl ordering us around, but now it's okay," a youthful student of Skyhawk engines said of his smiling instructor.

SUPPORT FOR UNITED CITY AND CONTINUED EXCAVATIONS

The Jerusalem Committee yesterday endorsed the municipality efforts to administer the united city fairly and called for unimpeded continuation of archeological excavations in Jerusalem. The committee concluded its fifth plenary session since it was founded in 1969.

The 50 foreign members participating, including planners and scholars from 15 countries, spent four days touring the city and discussing its development with local planners, sociologists and educators.

The final resolution stated: "We are convinced that the present administration of a unified Jerusalem has proved its competence, responsibility and dedication to the religious cultural and visual sanctity of the city. Jerusalem must never be divided territorially nor rendered ungovernable by an attempted internationalization."

The committee was formed by Mayor Teddy Kollek in order to provide the international community with a voice in the development of Jerusalem.

FUNERAL PROPOSAL FOR WARRIOR'S REMAINS

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer made his recommendations to the ministerial committee on symbols and ceremonies regarding a state funeral for the remains of the Bar Kochba warriors and their families discovered by Professor Yigael Yadin in Nahal Hever in 1960.

The remains of 19 skeletons, for the past two decades dispersed among the country's medical schools, have recently been returned to the ministry's Antiquities Department in preparation for the state funeral.

About two months ago Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren called for the burial of the bones and condemned the government and the archeological establishment for "playing around with the dead."

Hammer asked the ministerial committee to consult with the Chief Rabbinate and with the IDF chief chaplain to determine the best location and appropriate ceremony for the burial.

Hammer has also suggested that when the funeral is held, teachers in the country's schools devote a lesson or more to the revolt of 132-135 C.E. against Rome, led by Shimon Bar Kochba.

BRITISH MPs URGE EUROPEAN 'SUPPORT' FOR PEACE PROCESS

LONDON. — The British MPs who just returned from a visit to Israel under the auspices of the Conservative Friends of Israel has called on the British government and its European partners "to give greater encouragement and support to Israel and Egypt to implement the Camp David accords dealing with Palestinian autonomy."

In a statement issued in London, the party — which included one junior minister (Peggy Fenner, parliamentary secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture) four other MPs and one other member of the European Parliament — said that it had been "reassured by the determination of the Israeli government to adhere in every respect to its obligations" under its treaty with Egypt. On the West Bank settlements, which the group visited, they stated that they did not consider them "a bar to Palestinian autonomy."

PLO SAID PLANNING RETURN TO JORDAN

LONDON. — The top leadership of the PLO has come to the conclusion that it must re-establish its foothold in Jordan, "to carry on the fight against Israel."

This is the conclusion reached in a secret document prepared by six PLO leaders headed by Yasser Arafat and including Salah Khalaf ("Abu Iyyad") and Farouk Kadouni revealed in *The Observer* newspaper by Colin Legum.

According to Legum, the document concluded that "Jordan is the only place from which it would be possible to reach the Palestinians in the occupied territory and where the PLO would be free from the military pressures of the Syrians and the Christian Lebanese. It would also allow close contact with the Palestinians who could be converted to active cooperation through a PLO military presence in Jordan."

MOST ISRAELIS SAY INFLATION DIDN'T HURT THEM IN 1981

TEL AVIV. — Most Israelis say they have not suffered from the past year's raging inflation and about one-quarter say their standard of living in 1981 was better than in 1980. Half the public also say they preserved the value of their savings but over one-third claimed their assets eroded during 1981.

Likud voters predominate among those who said the inflation had not adversely affected them.

The above emerged from a poll conducted for The Jerusalem Post by the Modi'in Ezrahi Applied Research Centre at the end of November among a representative sample of 1,275 adults.

Q. "How has your living standard fared in comparison to last year?"

1. Much better off	5.4%
2. Bit better off	18.2%
3. No change	57.8%
4. Bit lower	12.9%
5. Much lower	5.2%
6. Undecided	0.5%

SNAKES PLAGUE GOLAN

KATZRIN. — A Plague of snakes — some of them poisonous — has struck the Golan Heights. Cases of non-lethal snakes biting residents of the area have been reported. The snakes are expected to disappear with the onset of colder weather.

UN DISCUSSES 'QUESTION OF PALESTINE'

UNITED NATIONS. — The UN General Assembly began discussing the "Question of Palestine." More than 50 speakers are expected to condemn Israel and call for the establishment of an independent PLO-controlled Palestinian state.

As the assembly opened its debate, Israel Ambassador Yehuda Blum challenged the impartiality of assembly president Ismat Kittani of Iraq on the issue.

Ambassador Blum, in addressing the assembly, characterized Jordan as "the independent, sovereign state of Palestinian Arabs" and rejected the idea of establishing another PLO-dominated state. He stressed that the Camp David peace framework "invites the Palestinian Arab residents of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district to play an active role in shaping their future."

HIGH PRIEST OF SAMARITANS BURIED

Asher Ben-Mazliah Halevi, the venerable Samaritan high priest, died in Nablus on Saturday at 87. His funeral took place on Mt. Gerizim yesterday afternoon.

There are some 500 Samaritans in the world today, with more than half residing in Holon and the rest living in Nablus near Mt. Gerizim, the holiest of Samaritan sites. They consider themselves the descendants of the tribes of Ephraim and Menashe.

DAYAN'S HOME MAY BECOME MUSEUM

TEL AVIV. — Rahel Dayan has agreed to rent the Zahala villa left her by her husband, the late Moshe Dayan, to the Tel Aviv Municipality, which will use the house and archeological garden as a museum, municipal sources reported.

According to the sources, the municipality is keen to keep Dayan's valuable collection within the city, but cannot afford to buy the house and garden, which are valued at about IS8 million.

These reports contradict rumours that Rahel Dayan plans to sell the house and divide half of its proceeds among Dayan's children.

It was further reported that Rahel Dayan will move to an apartment on Tel Aviv's Sderot Shaul Hamelech, near Rehov Uri.

Mayor Shlomo Lahat's personal assistant Hana Ben-Yehuda declined to confirm or deny the plan to rent Dayan's house to the city.

WARSAW BLAMES ALL ITS TROUBLE ON JEWS

NEW YORK. — Information reaching the American Jewish Committee here says that the military regime in Poland has begun an anti-Semitic campaign, with government media charging that Jews and Free-Masons have misled the Polish people and that the people of Jewish origin have turned Solidarity into an anti-national body.

An hour-long Warsaw radio interview with a Professor Kossecki included charges that Jewish groups had taken control of 80 per cent of Polish industry and put Church and liberal communist leaders on the "wrong road". Kossecki also alleged that many of the dissident Kor movement were former Stalinists often of "Jewish origin" who wanted the "death of Poland." Kossecki also charged that Jews and Free-Masons were responsible for Solidarity's extremist wing.

The American Jewish Committee also reported that in the weeks prior to the imposition of martial law, material published by the anti-Semitic Grunwald Union was circulated in Poland.

HADDAD: HAIFA IN RANGE OF PLO ARTILLERY IN S. LEBANON

METULLA. — Major Sa'ad Haddad, commander of the Christian forces in South Lebanon, yesterday said that the Palestine Liberation Organization has moved heavy artillery into the area held by the UN peace-keeping forces, which could strike as far south as Haifa. Besides heavy cannon, he said, the terrorists' arsenal includes Scud ground-to-ground missiles and Katyusha rockets.

Speaking at a press conference in Metulla, Haddad charged that the PLO has increased its strength in the area to 900 men and that the UN forces are powerless to do anything about it. He demanded that the UN expel the PLO from the border zone.

"The terrorists are pushing inside the area little by little and sooner or later they will control all the UNIFIL area," Haddad said, referring to the force set up after Israeli's incursion into Southern Lebanon in March, 1978.

In remarks apparently directed to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Haddad demanded that the world body head "use all his capacity and power to free the area of the PLO and allow no weapons... in the area."

RUSH TO UNCOVER SITE THAT MOSES AVOIDED

A team of Israeli archeologists is conducting a crash-dig in northern Sinai to uncover as much as possible of the remains of a Pharaonic administrative centre before the area is returned to Egypt in April.

Excavations director Eliezer Oren of Ben-Gurion University told The Jerusalem Post that the existence of the centre, some four kilometres north of Atzmona, would seem to disprove the theory that Moses led the Children of Israel to the Promised Land along the coastal route.

Prof. Oren notes that BGU archeologists have discovered 80 sites dating to the periods of the New Kingdom (1500-1200 BCE) along the "Way of Horus," the Egyptian name for the Biblical *Derech Eretz Plishtim* (Land of the Philistines route), which connected the Nile Delta with Judea, Syria and Mesopotamia. The administrative centre and its neighbouring fort are part of this group.

Some Bible scholars have argued that the coastal route was the most likely one to have been taken by Moses when he led the Children of Israel out of Egypt and into Canaan. But Oren observes that the heavy Egyptian fortifications, which obviously existed and functioned along the Way of Horus during the 13th century, would have prevented Moses from using this route. He won't speculate about which route Moses did take, but says emphatically: It wasn't this one."

The administrative centre was apparently abandoned with the decline of Egyptian power sometime in the 12th century BCE, says Oren.

ARCHEOLOGIST DATES MUSRARA GRAVE TO THE FALL OF JERUSALEM

A senior Israeli archeologist, Meir Ben-Dov, director of the excavation near the Temple Mount, said that it was very likely that the tens of thousands of bones found in a mass grave in Jerusalem's Musrara quarter were the remains of Jewish soldiers who fell during the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 CE.

Ben-Dov said that during an inspection of the site, on Rehov Elisha, about 150 metres north the Old City's northern walls, he found a Roman-period figula

— a clasp used to fasten togas — under the layer of bones, together with some Roman period potsherds. He explained that the reason none of the findings were actually on the same stratum as the bones was that the latter were too densely packed. Byzantine remains were found on top of the bone stratum. Ben-Dov believes that the grave is extremely rare, and that the probability of its dating back to Roman times is very high — 80 per cent. He said that an excavation must be carried out, at least to determine the size of the mass grave.

The grave was uncovered by building workers who were digging on Rehov Elisha to build a *mikva* (ritual bath) for the local residents.

11 DEAD IN BEIRUT BLAST

Syrian-controlled West Beirut was shaken by another major blast, when a time-bomb concealed in a pickup truck exploded outside a petrol station, killing five investigating policemen and six passers-by.

Fifteen other pedestrians and taxi occupants were reported injured in the blast, the latest in a round of escalated violence believed to involve rival Syrian- and Iraqi-supported militias in Lebanon.

It was not clear from agency reports what the target of yesterday's blast was, but an Associated Press dispatch from Beirut noted that a garrison of soldiers from the Syrian occupation force in Lebanon is situated immediately behind the petrol station.

If the garrison was indeed the target of the attack, it could have been the work of one of two Iraqi-backed groups involved in the present violence, possibly in retaliation for last week's devastating blast in the Iraqi embassy in Beirut.

The death-toll in the embassy blast, believed to have been the work of the Syrian-backed Lebanese Shi'ite group Amal, with the possible help of Syrian Intelligence, now stands at 32, with Iraqi ambassador still unaccounted for. Police are reported to hold out little hope for further survivors — despite the recovery of an Iraqi diplomat, Aziz Rashid Atieh, still alive after four days beneath the rubble.

Egyptian Anglers Allegedly Blast Sinai Coral

The Egyptian embassy is to ask its government to investigate a report that fishermen using explosives to catch fish are destroying coral reefs in the area of Sinai under Egyptian control.

According to the report, filed by the Itim news agency, the head of the Nature Reserves Authority in Eilat, David Sadeh, claimed that local fishermen and Egyptian soldiers are killing fish with hand-grenades in Ras Mohammed and that the world famous coral reef has been destroyed in many places.

Sadeh also said that Egyptian officers had told him of gazelles being hunted down. These animals were protected species under Israeli administration.

ARMS EXPORTS MAY HIT \$1.3b.

TEL AVIV. — Israel's arms exports during the current fiscal year will total between \$1.2 billion to 1.3b., the Minister for Economic Coordination Ya'acov Meridor said.

He told the Israel-South Africa Chamber for Commerce "a lot of countries" are interested in sophisticated Israeli military equipment because it developed from the IDF's battle experience.

GERMAN PANEL SEEK CHANGE IN ISRAEL SCHOOL BOOKS

The study of German history in Israeli junior high school classrooms, which ends with the Nuremberg trials of 1945-46, will probably be expanded to include some material on "the new Germany" since the end of World War II.

Such a change will be in line with the recommendations of a German educators' committee, headed by Prof. Wolfgang Marinfeld, which during the past year reviewed the material on Germany contained in Israeli history and geography textbooks as well as the material on Israel, the Holocaust and the Middle East Conflict contained in German junior high school geography and history textbooks.

A similar Israeli committee, headed by Dr. Shevah Eden, former head of the Pedagogical Secretariat, spent the past year reading and analyzing the same material.

The change in the Israeli textbooks was among the recommendations suggested by the German educators. The Germans also objected that the Israeli textbooks tend to portray Germany as part of an "historical" problem or as part of the "East-West conflict" rather than as an independent entity with its own unique and flourishing culture, industry and society.

The Israeli committee levelled a similar objection against German junior high school textbooks, which tend to portray Israel as a party to a conflict while ignoring Israel's development and achievements aside from the conflict.

"Indeed, we sometimes found that the image of Israel in the German textbooks was too sweet, too simple and one-sided. We have recommended that the German textbooks be amended to present Israel in more realistic terms, with its not negligible political, economic and social problems," Eden said.

The Israeli committee throughout the reading was acutely aware that "while the picture of the Nazi period in the German textbooks is correct, and factually unchallengeable, a lot depends on what the teachers choose to teach and how they teach it," Eden said. "The textbooks tell us nothing about that."

Regarding the German textbooks on modern Israel, the Israeli committee has recommended that the Germans' references to the Arab refugee problem should in some manner be "balanced" by references to the flood of Jewish refugees from Moslem countries who arrived in Israel soon after it was established.

The two committees will spend the coming year reviewing senior high school textbooks from both countries.

TERRORIST SUSPECT EXTRADITED BY U.S. FOR TRIAL IN ISRAEL

A suspected West Bank terrorist was extradited from the U.S. to Israel, earning the U.S. widespread condemnation from various Arab quarters.

Ziad Abu Eian, 22, of El-Bireh, faces life imprisonment if convicted of planting the bomb in the Tiberias market in May 1979 which killed two youths and wounded 36.

The U.S. State Department confirmation of a court ruling on the extradition was authorized by Deputy Secretary of State William Clark late on Saturday. Shortly thereafter Abu Eian was handed over to Israeli police representatives in New York for an El Al flight to Tel Aviv.

Abu Eian, who will probably face a civilian court, fled to the U.S. a few days after the bomb attack.

He was picked up at his sister's home in Chicago in August 1979 by the FBI in the basis of an Israeli extradition request. His extradition, which was preceded by a prolonged legal battle and intensive lobbying on his behalf by some American civil rights organizations and politicians, is the first under the terms of the 1963 extradition treaty between the two countries.

A key Palestinian leader attacked the U.S. decision, accusing America of practising international terrorism and piracy.

"The American administration, by committing such a crime, clearing proves the reality of its strategic alignment with the Zionist enemy," Salah Khalaf, second man in the dominant Al-Fatah group, said.

"The American administration, by delivering Ziad Abu Eian to the Zionist authorities, practises the ugliest kind of international piracy and terrorism," he said.

JEWS FROM RUMANIA BACK HUNGER-STRIKER

Representatives of all organizations for Rumanian Jews in Israel met this week to pass an unanimous resolution expressing their identification with Bucharest hunger striker Ilya Edrain and his family who have been refused exit visas to emigrate to Israel. The resolution also appeals to the Rumanian government to grant the Edrain family's request.

MOSLEM FANATICS HELD FOR DAMASCUS BLAST

Syria claimed that it had arrested the Moslem Brotherhood fanatics responsible for Sunday's massive bomb blast outside an army recruiting centre in downtown Damascus, which has taken as many as 150 lives, with the death toll still said to be rising.

Meanwhile, an officially estimated 300,000 demonstrators chanting anti-Israel and anti-American slogans marched through the Syrian capital yesterday to protest the blast.

Syria's state-controlled news media identified the leader of the operation as Yassin Bin Mohammed Sareej, a member of the outlawed Moslem Brotherhood.

SCIENTISTS UNVEIL NEW GLADIOLUS

RISHON LEZION. — Scientists at the Agricultural Research Organization's department of ornamental plants have developed a new type of gladiolus.

The scientists developed the flower by cross-breeding the large European gladiolus with the small wild variety.

The cross-breeding has produced a flower that looks like an orchid, and because of this some of the scientists have nicknamed the creation, "Orchidiola."

The flower has an especially thin stem. It can be grown in open spaces, saving the grower the expense of hot houses and heating. Because of its compact size and light weight, it is believed that air freighting to Europe will be inexpensive.

The scientists are planning to release several species of this new flower to farmers towards the new flower export season this coming fall.

"Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at eve, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping." Mark 13:35,36.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

As a service to our readers, we offer the following books dealing with different aspects of Israel, its people and history. We regularly receive letters asking about the availability of such books, and we hope these selections will help to meet the demand. All prices are in U.S. dollars, but payment can also be made in the equivalent amount in other currencies. All prices include shipping to any part of the world. If you are looking for a book (published in Israel) that is not listed here, write and tell us about it, and we will try to find it for you.

THE ISRAEL I LOVE — A guide to the Land of Israel, covering both modern Israel and the Israel of history and the Bible. This lovely volume, with its many historical accounts and its beautifully illustrated text, covers all parts of Israel, its people and places of interest; and succeeds in capturing the rich history of this fascinating land, its unique past and extraordinary present, its desolate deserts, verdant valleys and bustling cities. With 60 full-colour photographs and 62 black and white, it has 160 pages, and a chart listing milestones in Israel's history from biblical times to the present. Hard-cover, 11 x 8½ inches. Price \$8.25

LIVING WITH THE BIBLE — By Moshe Dayan, Israel's most famous general. "*I was introduced to the stories of the Bible as a boy, like all children born in the Land of the Book.*" So begins this charming and very special recreation of some of the most dramatic events of the Old Testament, as Dayan explores the archaeology of the Holy Land and re-interprets familiar Bible Stories in a new light, drawing on his personal experiences and including parallel stories from modern times. Gives new life to many biblical accounts, and also an insight into the rebirth of the modern state of Israel. There is, for example, a fascinating account of the battle between David and Goliath, told with the special touch that only Moshe Dayan could provide. Well illustrated throughout, with over 100 photographs, drawings, and maps. 232 pages. Hard-cover. 10 x 8 1/4 inches. Price \$19.50

BATTLES OF THE BIBLE — A modern military evaluation of the Old Testament. An invaluable handbook for Bible scholars, this book combines detailed maps and specially commissioned ground and aerial photography, together with illustrations of all relevant aspects of biblical life, with a lively account by two of Israel's most outstanding experts in military affairs to provide a fascinating reconstruction of the chain of military clashes that formed biblical history, from Abraham and the Patriarchs, the sojourn in Egypt, the invasion of Canaan by the Israelites under Joshua's command, through the conquest of the kingdom by David and Solomon, the split of the kingdom into Judah and Israel, and the Maccabees' successful rebellion against Seleucid domination. 78 photos, 36 maps, 247 pages. Hard-cover. 10 x 7 ¾". Price.. \$16.00

THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, ITS HISTORY IN MAPS — This interesting book traces the history of the Jewish people and the nation of Israel through the use of more than 100 maps. Beginning with Israel in Biblical times, it follows the Jews through their dispersion among the nations, through to their return in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and the rebirth of Israel. It details the course of the wars with the Arab nations, the changing borders, etc. It reports the many incidents taking place in and between the wars, and gives many interesting facts regarding population, armaments, the political aftermaths, etc. Paperback, 109 pages, 9 ¾ x 6 ¾ inches. Price.... \$7.75

FRONT PAGE ISRAEL — A large book containing reproductions of nearly 300 front pages of Israel's English daily newspaper — "The Jerusalem Post" — covering the period of 1932 to 1978. Highlighting the important events of the last 45 years, this book gives a very interesting glimpse of history as it was being made — what life was like in British Mandatory Palestine, the battles and horrors of World War II, the emergence of Israel as a Jewish nation and its wars, struggles, and important happenings since that time. Hard-cover, 312 pages, 15 x 11 inches. Price \$20.00

THE GLORY OF THE HOLY LAND — An explorer's guide. Anyone interested in Israel, its places of holy and historical interest, and its biblical aspects, will find this book to be a treasure trove of information, with its more than 600 superb color photographs and richly-documented text covering all parts of the Holy Land, from the Mountain of Moses in southern Sinai, to the sources of the Jordan in northern Israel. Describes the places that are sacred to Jews, Christians or Moslems, as well as some of the other religious sects in the Holy Land, such as the Druzes and Bahais. The book follows a geographical plan, covering the entire country and its regions, always with richly-illustrated historical detail, and many biblical references. Over 600 color photos, 256 pages. 11 x 8 ¾ inches. Price

\$15.50

The Zion Son Beams — "HIGHER GROUND"

The Zion Son Beams new record, titled "Higher Ground" is filled full of songs of praise and inspiration, songs dedicated to the Lord and to His ministry. We like it and think you will too. Our singing group, the Zion Son Beams, has been able to reach many precious people with its message of a closer walk with the Lord, and after listening to them sing, you will understand why.

It is recorded on a high-quality stereo phono-record, standard the world over (33 1/2 rpm). The price of the album is \$7.00, which includes shipping. We don't think you will regret ordering it.

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalēm, let my right hand forget her cunning.
 If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of
 my mouth, if I prefer not JERUSALEM above my chief joy"
 Psalms 137:5, 6.

FUSION INVESTORS SEE AN 'ENERGY REVOLUTION'

The head of the company that wants to build an experimental nuclear fusion reactor in Israel has claimed that "if it works, it will revolutionize the world."

Dr. Richard Bussard, head of International Nuclear Energy Systems Company (INESCO), located near San Diego, also said that the small-scale fusion reactor that his company wants to build could possibly push the price of oil way down, knock out OPEC and shift the balance of power in the Middle East.

Bussard said in an interview that he has a letter from Israel's Energy Ministry agreeing in principle that the idea of building a fusion reactor is worth exploring.

He hopes that if negotiations go well, the Israel project will start by the end of 1982. He is currently starting a similar project in California, which he estimates will cost \$100 million. The Israel project should cost about the same, or hopefully somewhat less.

The original concept for INESCO's proposed fusion device was developed by Bussard and Professor Bruno Coppi of MIT. It is officially called the Riggatron, and informally a "throwaway reactor." When built, it will be shaped like a doughnut, 2½ metres in diameter. Its heart is the fusion reactor proper, which typically will run for 1,000 hours.

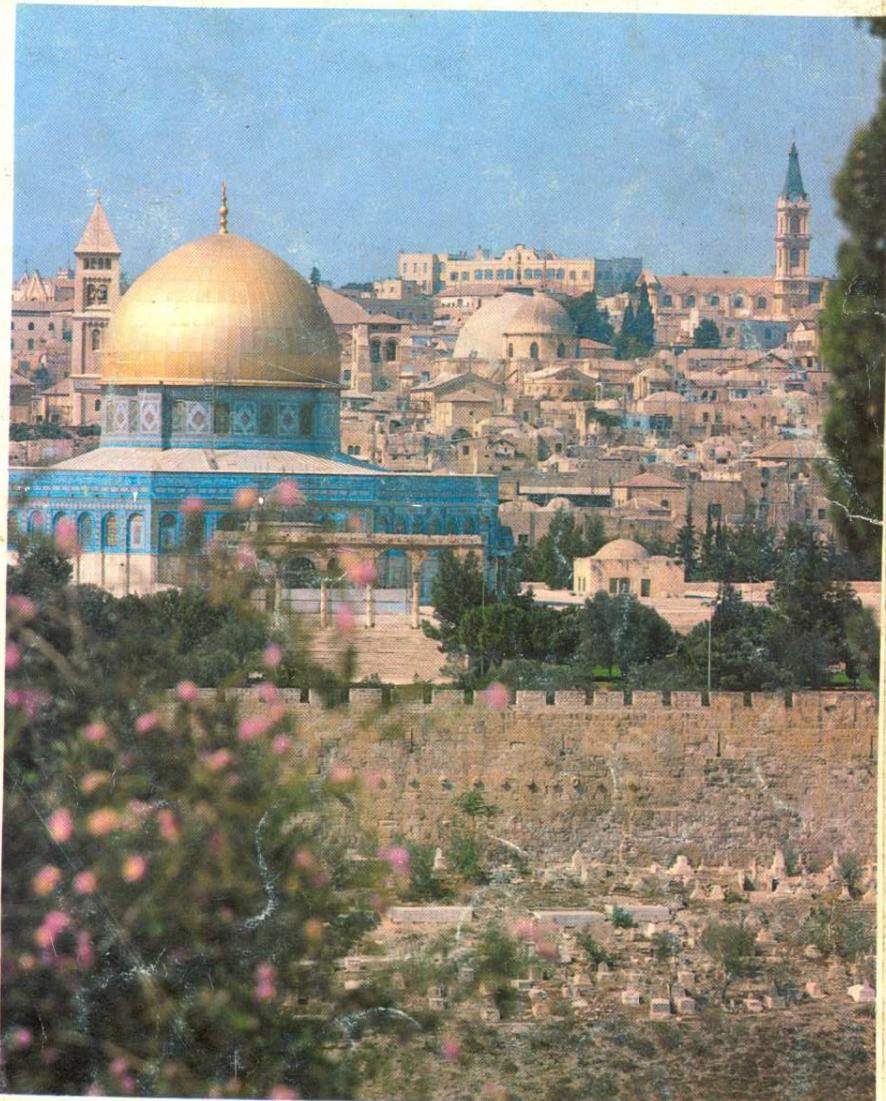
Bussard compares the reactor to the engine of a jet plane, which can be replaced or overhauled after 1,000 hours of use while keeping the main frame intact, or a light bulb, which can be replaced while keeping the lamp.

He predicts it will produce electricity at half the cost of current fossil fuel generating plants or of planned huge "Tokamak" fusion reactors. He says the Russians are working hard on a similar device called Dash 200, which they hope to have working in the early 1990s. Bussard hopes to have a Riggatron running in five years, and commercially effective by the late 1980s.

Like standard projected Tokamaks, Riggatron will run on deuterium-tritium as fuel. Deuterium, a form of hydrogen, can be extracted from sea water, and the reactor breeds its own tritium. Riggatron will be much less radioactive than large Tokamaks, he claims.

Bussard says he wants to put the project in Israel because he personally has warm feelings for the country. It will be good for Israel, and "the people there are very bright," says Bussard.

The project would be an outlet for Israeli scientists and emigrants whose skills cannot be utilized by Israel at this time, he said.



Jerusalem — A partial view of the Old City, and the Temple site. The building in the foreground (blue, with golden dome) is the Dome of the Rock. It was built in 691 A.D. by the Ommyad Caliph Abd El-Malek, on the site of King Solomon's Temple. Some early Moslems identified the Jewish Temple Mount in Jerusalem as the site of the "far distant place of worship" mentioned in the Koran from which Mohammed ascended to heaven in his vision, and the Caliph Abd El-Malek wanted to establish a center of worship to rival the Moslem holy places at Mecca and Medina, which were under control of a rival Caliph. The Dome of the Rock (also called the Mosque of Omar, after the Caliph Omar, who conquered Jerusalem from the Byzantines in 637 A.D.), is built over a large rock said to be the rock on which Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice. Also on the Temple Mount, a short distance south, Malek's son, Caliph Waleed, built a larger mosque, with a silver dome, called El-Aksa, meaning "the distant one". Built on the ruins of Justinian's Basilica (6th cen.) the El-Aksa Mosque is considered by Moslems as second only to the Ka'aba in Mecca in holiness. Today, these two mosques dominate the Temple Mount, and, as well as being Moslem holy places of worship, are visited by many thousands of tourists each year. Religious Jews, though, are forbidden by their religious leaders to approach the Temple site, due to its holiness and its desecration.