

# THE MOUNT ZION REPORTER

Vol. 35

AB (August 1989)

No. 8

## Probes

# judah'89



The *Talitha Kumi* Orphanage School For Girls — 1905. The building no longer exists, but part of its wall, with the clock and name (taken from Jesus' words in Mark 5:4) today stands in the center of modern Jerusalem. See article and photos on page 24.

### IN THIS ISSUE

Consider Your Ways  
The New Age Movement  
Life in Israel

God's Redemption Plan  
for the Gentiles  
It Just Isn't True

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President & Editor — Gordon M. Fauth**

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**Our Creed: Revelation 12:17**

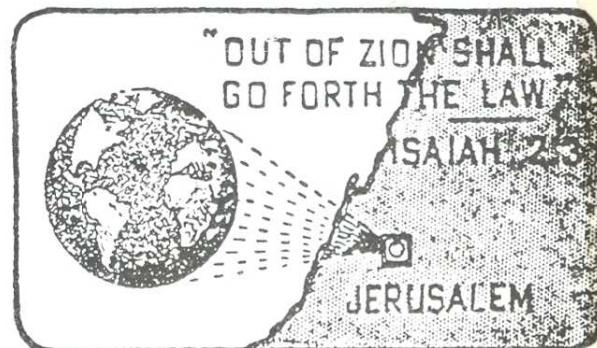
**The Head and Director: Jesus (Yahshua)**

**Membership: "Lamb's Book of Life,"  
in Heaven — Revelation 20:15.**

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**Jerusalem — The Chosen City of God (ירושלים)**

"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" (Isaiah 24:23). "They shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord" (Jeremiah 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).

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## CONTENTS

Page 3

**Consider Your Ways**

Page 4

**The New Age Movement**

*Exposing the New Age  
Philosophies*

Page 7

**Life in Israel**  
*by Naomi Fauth*

Page 8

**Tisha B'Av**  
*Jewish Day of Mourning*

Page 9

**Good Health Department**  
*The dangers of Hepatitis B*

Page 13

**God's Redemption Plan  
for the Gentiles**  
*From the Book of Ruth*

Page 15

**It Just Isn't True**  
*The controversy over Zion*

Page 16

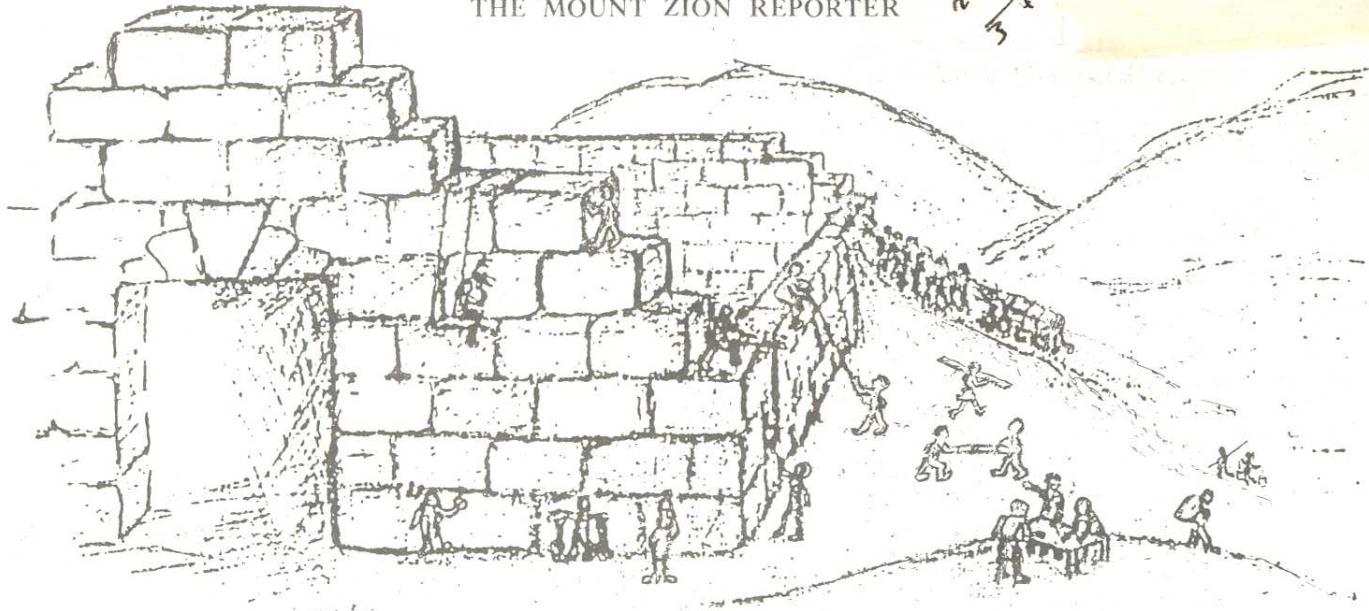
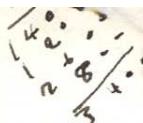
**Israel's 'Horizon' in Space**  
*The pioneering satellite*

Page 17

**News Direct From Israel**

Page 24

**Talitha Kumi**  
*The old and the new*



# Consider Your Ways

Ian Lawrence

**"Now therefore thus saith the Lord of Hosts; Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes."** (Haggai 1: 5-6).

For 17 years, the people in the book of Haggai worked hard with what they had, but nothing was successful. The Lord had not blessed their lives abundantly as they had expected on their return from Babylon. It was as if they were wasting their time.

For 17 years, the Lord permitted this unfruitful way of life to continue.

When they first arrived in Jerusalem, they had set to work rebuilding the Lord's temple, but due to difficulties, this work had been abandoned, and eventually ignored or forgotten. (Ezra 4: 23-24). As time went on they lost sight of their original vision, and they could no longer see the will of God. As a result, they suffered.

## “Build The House”

Finally, God sent a prophet — Haggai — with a word from the Lord; “*Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord.*” The Lord commanded them to work, “*For I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts: . . . according to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not.*”

## What Was Wrong?

Those people were not committing any ‘outstanding sins’ in God’s eyes, but they weren’t really achieving anything either; “*Ye looked for much; and lo, it came to little; . . . Why? saith the Lord of*

*hosts. Because of Mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.*”

Those people finally obeyed God, and returned to the original vision and resumed construction of the temple. In spite of the earlier difficulties which had seemed so daunting, it was built quickly; and God’s blessings were poured out.

## What About Us?

How do we compare with those Jews in the book of Haggai? Are we serving our God faithfully in the task that He has set before us? Or are we so caught up with our own lives and problems that the all-important work is being neglected?

In the light of the example of those ancient Israelites, can we truthfully say that we are receiving the Father’s full blessing in our lives? It is so easy for us to be overwhelmed by difficulties; to become sidetracked with other matters and to lose sight of our original vision.

We, also, must consider our ways; things in our lives that need the Lord’s blessing: goals we need to achieve, faults we should overcome — and we should consider why this blessing is not forthcoming. Have we remembered the original vision? Or have we, too, lost our close contact with the Lord? If we have strayed into the wayside, we need to return to the path and to doing His will. No matter what obstacles may face us, no matter what personal problems we may have to deal with, if we hold true and trust in the Lord for help and strength, we will persevere and reap the blessings of victory. And those blessings will be felt in every aspect of our lives.

This is what living an overcoming life is about. It was important for the Israelites of old, and it is important for us today. It is something in which all believers can, and should, partake.

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# The New Age Movement

## World Beast Power in the Making?

*"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in the their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is six hundred threescore and six."*

Those who believe in the Bible and its prophecies have long been wondering what form the Beast of Revelation would take, and just what the "Mark of the Beast" would constitute. Our age has brought wonders the world has never before seen, and some of these modern realities have given new and chilling meaning to the words of Revelation.

While the vision of John on the Isle of Patmos was purposely given in cryptic terms that would not be wholly understood until the time spoken of had come, there are several points in the thirteenth chapter of the book that are unmistakably clear:

- The Dragon (Satan) would give his power to the Beast;
- The Beast would have the aspects of many creatures, not just one;
- The Beast would rule all "Kindreds, tongues and nations";
- The Beast would work great wonders, deceiving many, and blaspheming against God and Heaven;
- The Beast Power would totally control the world's economy, causing all to receive a mark or number "in the right hand, or in their forehead" which would be used in all transactions.

Previous ages have seen world powers arise: Egypt, Babylonia, Persia, the Empire of Alexander the Great, Rome, etc. However, no empire before our age sought the unification of the world through an ideology. In our age, there have been several such attempts. The Nazi ideology, teaching the superiority of the "Aryan" race and the "glory" of secular humanism was one frightening example; Communism, with its goal of world unity through secular philosophy, is another. And even in the capitalistic Western world, there are on every hand movements toward ecumenicalism and secular humanism — anything that promotes unity in its broadest sense. Some of these movements appear on the surface quite harmless, and many appear to have worthwhile goals and aims — yet, what will be the final result?

The Common Market, or European Economic Community (EEC), furnishes the best evidence today of a

movement toward unity on an international level. The twelve nations belonging to this organization have already established a European Parliament; they have already virtually eliminated their borders and frontiers, and have standardized everything from electrical plugs to passports; and, as the next step in the process of unification, they are proceeding with plans to introduce a common "European" currency (this is to be done by 1992) to replace their old national currencies.

Even today, the EEC is a power to be reckoned with, and this is probably just the beginning. Hungary, an Eastern Bloc communist nation, has recently announced that within ten years it will petition for EEC membership. This alone would be a phenomenal development, but with Glasnost and the reapproachment it is bringing between east and west, Hungary may well be just the first of the Soviet bloc countries to join the EEC. The specter of a United Europe — and this is the avowed aim of the EEC — is truly becoming a reality.

Never in history has there been anything quite like this — a situation in which nations are voluntarily giving up their power to a central agency. Why are they doing it? Because they are convinced that in our modern age unity represents the best answer to the problems that our world faces. And many other organizations and individuals, around the world, agree with this sentiment and are pursuing the same goal, in both secular and spiritual ways.

### History of the New Age Movement

The present "New Age" movement can be traced back to the teachings of Helena Petrova Blavatsky, who in 1875 founded the Theosophical Society. Beginning in 1867 and continuing until her death in 1891, Blavatsky was said to have received telepathic instruction from "Masters" — spirit beings, or humans who had died and evolved to a "higher plane," such as "Jesus, Buddha, Mohammed, Confucius," etc. In addition to teaching evolution, the Theosophical Society taught that "all religions have common truths which transcend potential differences." Even so, when it came to these "common truths," Blavatsky showed a marked bias in favor of Eastern religion and philosophy, writing: "The Christians and scientists must be made to respect their Indian betters." A central theme of the movement, then and now, is the idea that man represents his own salvation, and himself possesses godhood.

While the communist movement which first arose to world power in Russia in 1917 does not believe in religion, it very much believes in the same type of secular humanism found in Theosophy and in the New Age groups today. It has swept the world with its ideology of

"Man as God," laying an ideal groundwork for the further "enlightenment" which the New Age Movement promises.

The Nazi party in Germany borrowed from the teachings of the Theosophical Movement in the formulation of its "Master Race" theory. The idea that man could be God fit in very well with Nazi illusions. It has been almost a half-century since the fall of the "Third Reich," but the New Age Movement, the modern embodiment of the Theosophical Movement, is today found just about everywhere, in a myriad of forms.

Madam Blavatsky herself is long dead; but her spiritual followers are present in every part of the world, and in rapidly increasing numbers. The thousands of New Age groups in the world today exist under many different names and in many guises, but they all share the "New Age" philosophy of enlightenment through self, and the central concept that "Man is God." And, they all have the goal of bringing about world unity — often under an "Ultimate One," a Christ-like figure who will appear when the time is ripe, to rule over the New Age utopia.

This strange amalgamation of secular belief and spiritualism, with dabs of oriental religious philosophy thrown in, is a virtual hallmark of the New Age Movement, wherever it is found, and in whatever form. It may seem strange and contradictory, but New Age groups also often encourage the worship of Pagan gods ranging from Pan to Vishnu to Lucifer. At the same time, they reject belief in the Christian God, or belief in Jesus as anything more than a spirit "Master." This seeming illogic itself shows more than a hint of Satanic influence.

Some New Age groups are quite open about their beliefs and goals; others are less so. While some groups are united in actual conspiracy aimed at accomplishing their ends, many others exist completely independently, united only by shared beliefs and purpose. And, while many New Age groups have an obvious and overt involvement in the occult, others appear completely humanistic in nature.

Often, New Age Movement groups push causes that are in themselves quite noble: World Peace, Ecology, Human Rights, etc. This makes these groups very attractive to the "enlightened" person of today, and many a good Christian is skirting around the edges of the New Age Movement without even realizing it. This itself brings to mind Christ's warning that in the Last Days

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*"For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect."*

*(Mark 13: 22).*

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there would arise false prophets and leaders who would deceive "the very elect." To anyone who reads the Bible, the whole business is part of an alarming trend, one that can lead in only one direction. It is therefore very important that the New Age Movement be recognized for what it is, and that the many groups which make it up be recognized for what they are. This is generally not hard to do, if we carefully examine the beliefs and purposes of these groups.

### Principles of the New Age Movement

The New Age Movement is united by six broad principles that are generally held in common by groups of both the occult and humanistic camps. The importance attached to one or another of these principles will vary with the particular emphasis of each New Age entity, but the principles, in one form or another, are the creed that binds New Agers together.

These principles are:

1. GOD IS IMPERSONAL AND NOT SEPARATE OR DISTINCT FROM CREATION. This concept has long been associated with the Eastern religions and their westernized expressions. God does not have personality but is an "It," an energy, force, or an aggregate consciousness, ever expanding through human evolution. The universe has no purpose. Possibility has no limits. Good and evil are the same, as are also life and death.

*In stark contrast to this principle, God's Word pronounces judgement on all who fail to distinguish between the Creator and His creation (Isa. 45:8-19) and especially on those who identify themselves with God (Isa. 47:8-10).*

2. HUMANITY, LIKE ALL CREATION, SHARES THE ESSENTIAL BEING OF GOD AND IS DIVINE. Man, therefore, has no specific nature, no attributes, no limitations. All options are open. The only barrier to further evolution — physical and spiritual — is ignorance. Ignorance is overcome through "enlightenment." Any New Ager may say, "I am God." Being God, man is under no law, but is as the law: responsible to none but himself, and free of all guilt.

*This is the exact lie that Satan told our first parents in the Garden of Eden! (Gen. 3:4-5). It began the "age" that has come to be called "new" in our generation. Ezekiel 28:2 sharply reproves humanity for aspiring to godhood.*

3. HUMANITY'S CRISES RISE FROM IGNORANCE OF MAN'S DIVINITY AND ONENESS WITH ALL THINGS. Reality in the New Age is only what each individual decides it is. Changing one's perception of reality overcomes all anxieties and evils. Humanity's journey to perfection and omnipotence is an "awakening" or evolutionary process called "transformation." Mankind is the savior of mankind . . .

*"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4: 12).*

4. HUMANITY'S GREATEST NEED IS TRANSFORMATION — OR AWARENESS OF MAN'S ONENESS WITH GOD AND INNATEDIVINITY: We are our own Creators! As such, we are responsible for everything that happens to us and around us. The capture of further evolution is man's only hope. The key element is that man must choose the direction of his further evolution. Man's divine nobility will emerge as he directs his own evolution for the betterment of mankind.

*"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened." (Rom. 1: 21).*

**5. TRANSFORMATION CAN BE BROUGHT ABOUT BY A MYRIAD OF TECHNIQUES THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO THE BODY, MIND AND/OR SPIRIT:** The object of these techniques is to dismantle each person's perception of reality and build a new set of perceptions based on mankind being self-creating. An altered state of consciousness is required to change the individual's perception of reality.

*"Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen." (Rom. 1: 25).*

**6. PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION IS THE BASIS FOR GLOBAL TRANSFORMATION CHARACTERIZED BY MASS ENLIGHTENMENT AND SOCIAL UNITY.** According to New Agers, further evolution of mankind will become collective, culminating in a golden age that will be free of war, crime, violence, racism, drug abuse and hunger. All mankind will be "One" — with one language, one monetary system, one world government, as well as one mind and one will.

*("And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.") (Mark 13: 20).*

### Other Manifestations

Instances of the New Age Movement can be found in just about every community throughout the world today, in some form or another. Some of these instances are as flamboyant as the Hare Krishna cult, or the Rajneeshi cult, but most are more subtle, and more dangerous.

Astrologers claim that earth is presently undergoing a transition from the age of Pisces, the fish that symbolizes Christianity, into the age of Aquarius. The Piscean age began, they claim, just before the birth of Jesus, and it is now drawing to a close. They claim that the constant trouble and strife of the Piscean age was due to the Christian influence; and they say that things will be much more united and peaceful in the Aquarian age. While this view is, of course, nonsense — trouble and strife certainly did not begin with the Christian era — it has proven a popular idea with many.

In *The Aquarian Conspiracy*, which is often called the definitive work on the New Age Movement, writer Marilyn Ferguson calls the burgeoning movement "a benign conspiracy for a new human agenda . . . broader than reform, deeper than revolution." It had, she said, triggered the most rapid cultural realignment in history. This realignment supposedly represents, "the ascendance of a startling worldview that gathers into its framework breakthrough science and insights from earliest recorded thought."

American actress Shirley MacLane, whom Time Magazine calls "the New Age's reigning whirling dervish," has become a leading proponent of the occult side of the New Age Movement. In her 1987 television miniseries, *Out on a Limb*, cameras showed purported conversions, using a "channel," with spirits who claimed to have lived as humans centuries ago. The publicity surrounding her show, and others like it, led to an immediate surge across the United States in sales of books on the occult, a surge that has continued. And the pheno-

menon is by no means limited to America. Even in Israel, interest in occult subjects is growing, particularly among the young. A local believer was recently shocked to notice that most of the new books on display in the window of a leading Jerusalem bookstore dealt with occult or "New Age" subjects. When he inquired as to the reason, the clerk cited the recent intense interest in such subjects. Innocent curiosity? Perhaps, in most cases; but definitely evidence of an alarming worldwide trend.

*"Now the spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." (1 Tim. 4:1).*

The Twentieth Century is drawing to a close, and with it the Second Millennium. When the first Millennium drew to a close, Millenialist movements swept the countries of Europe; today, we can see something similar happening in the world. People want something better than what they have and they want a world in which they can feel more secure. People are searching for truth and for answers to questions deep within the soul. A true believer in God and His Son has this truth and these answers; other people do not, and they are easy prey for a movement which seems to provide all of this. The present mood of the world, with the popular feeling that an old age is drawing to a close, and a new one beginning, lends powerful support to this kind of movement.

Even so, most people in America and other countries are not yet ready for a direct change-over to a universal order or world government. Globalists realize this, and have their solutions. Richard Gardner, member of the Trilateral Commission and the Council on Foreign Relations and a Professor of International Law at Columbia University, spelled this out when he said: "Attempts to achieve instant world government must be changed. An end-run around national sovereignty, eroding it piece-by-piece, will accomplish more than the old-fashioned frontal assault." This is obviously the approach being used by the EEC, with marked success.

"Management by Crisis" is another approach, which some New Agers feel can be used to hurry things along. This involves a three-fold technique. In the first instance, they find, create, or invent a crisis somewhere in the world. In the second step, they widely publicize that crisis. And in the third step, when they've created sufficient alarm among the people, always citing renowned academics and experts, they propose their solution. With the right "crisis," the switch in attitude or government can occur almost overnight.

Sound familiar? One example of how this method works can be found in the Nazi Party's rise to power in Germany, before World War II. The crises were easy to find, the people were whipped up to a state of alarm, the Nazi Party proposed its "simple" solutions, and as a result Hitler, "The Leader," came to power. No one before the Nazi era would have believed a Nazi Germany possible, but it happened, with terrible results for millions.

Crises often in the news these days include the environment crisis, the arms race, the population crisis, the Third World crisis, the Middle East crisis, crime, the drug crisis . . . People are concerned about these issues,

# Life in Israel

by Naomi Fauth

Shalom!

Greetings of love, joy and peace in Jesus. Everything, here, is about as usual.

Today is Friday, and there is always much to do. It is early in the morning. Ordinarily I would not have time on a Friday to do extra things, but they are waiting for me again to get my little piece ready for the *Reporter*.

Later this afternoon, we are invited to a garden supper in honour of the Gerrishes, who have just returned to Israel from America. They were away for a few years.

We recently had visitors from Turkey. They were wives of young U.N. service men stationed in the airforce there. One was from America and one from England. They told us that 99 per cent of the people in Turkey are Moslem. There are a few Jewish people, and some Christians. They can worship freely, but only in known places already recognised for services. Brother David from our congregation, here in Jerusalem, spoke in one of their churches in Turkey a few years ago. I thought it interesting that the Anglican priest who was with them brings a tour group every year from Turkey to visit in Israel.

Albert Babisha and his wife and daughter have left Israel for awhile, and are visiting in America. We are missing them and wish them well. It is their first time in the U.S., where they may remain for awhile. Their son, Sammy, has been in America for some time now attending Bible College. They were afraid for him to come home, as their place is situated at the far side of Beit Jalla on the West Bank. Arab youths from villages nearby come up the deep canyon behind their place, throw stones and petrol bombs, and then flee back through their property, and into the canyon again. The Barbishas have had more than their share of bad days and nights when soldiers came through chasing fleeing youths. It seems to be getting worse and not better.

Brother Babisha is originally from Bagdad, in Iraq. Once he told us of a time when he was a student there. The young men in his school were upset about certain things, and planned a demonstration. No one warned them about what would happen. When they marched down the streets, the army, at a certain point, herded them on to the high bridge over the river and shot them all. He said as they started their march, something caused him to become very uneasy, and he dropped out, and was left behind.

Brother Babisha grew up swimming and diving in the river there at Bagdad, and riding horseback all over the country that he knew well. He was once a lawyer, but turned to the ministry. He is Assyrian, but preaches fluently in different languages, including Turkish, Arabic and English. He also preaches in Aramaic, his mother tongue — it is the language that Jesus spoke. He



Naomi and Gordon

is a blind man. He has been blind since his infancy. His blindness was caused when his mother was caught with him in a desert sandstorm and his eyes became infected. He has relatives still living in Bagdad. His brother's son, Benjamin, Sammy's age, was taken prisoner in the Iraq-Iran war and they haven't heard anything from him now for several years. In that war it has been made known to people living here that they purposely put Christian soldiers in the front lines. The percentage of deaths among Christian soldiers far exceeded that of Moslem soldiers.

I had an interesting conversation with a young Jewish soldier recently. Nearly every day they sit in the shade, under the big carob tree, outside the church gate. I went to water a few little starts of cactus and portulacca in the church yard and he followed me in. He asked many good questions about us and our faith. Often we meet people like this that seem filled with curiosity and questions. A week or two ago, an older Arab man, sitting by the church gate as I was coming out from services, wanted to talk. We talked about the present situation and trouble and how there are good people on both sides and also bad. He told me in tears how so many of his people are filled with hate, and how it makes them very unhappy. He said it is much better to love one another.

Also the other day, I was on a Gilo bus, going to visit an elderly Jewish friend. I sat down by a stranger who was sitting in the front of the bus. After a while the man spoke and said he had seen my husband and me on television. I said I knew that we had been on television some time ago. He said that he had recently seen us. He said the program was on the Abu Tor District of Jerusalem and was about peace between the Jews and Arabs. So it seems he was right and that they had re-run the program. We knew before this that they had shown it already twice. He said he thought that it was an extraordinary program and found it interesting.

He seemed anxious to show me all the scenery in places as we rode along, and pointed out different things. I asked him if he knew the meaning of the word 'Gilo', and he said he did but he talked of history rather than the meaning, and I think he forgot my question. He said Gilo is mentioned in the Bible in King David's time, and there was a man that advised people that lived in Gilo and so forth. All in all, it was a nice meeting and pleasant.

This man also told me about the airlift of the Yemenite Jews to Israel and about how they had come. He said they believed in the prophecies, and that they had been waiting for generations for the right time to come. They taught their children to understand also, and to wait. He meant they were waiting for the time that the Bible speaks of when the exiles would return. He was thrilled and excited in telling me. He said that around 100,000 Yemenite Jews in all had come back and that it was nearly 100 per cent of the Jews in Yemen. He said they had been taught throughout their many generations in exile that they would come back, and that they would fly back on the wings of a big bird, and that they never doubted it. Although he spoke English quite well, he didn't know

*JUDAH  
AB (AUG)  
1989*

# Tisha B'Av

## Day of Mourning

**“It seems to me as if the entire people of Israel have been sitting for 2,000 years and weeping over graves.”**

These words were written by the Hebrew novelist M. Z. Feierberg in 1898. Since then, as we know, the prophecy continued to prove true with the Holocaust in Europe claiming so many innocent victims and the ongoing wars after the establishment of the State of Israel in which so many young soldiers lost their lives.

Yet do Jews mourn even when it's no longer necessary? Should they still weep for the destruction of the First and Second Temples even though Jerusalem is again the capital of the State of Israel and Jews from all over the world have been free for 22 years to come and pray at the Western Wall?

### Mourning

The Talmud states that on the 9th of Ab one is obliged to observe all mourning rites which apply in the case of the death of a next of kin. This date commemorates many tragedies, but the main focus of the mourning is for the destruction of the Temple. The First Temple was destroyed on the 9th of Ab by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C. marking the beginning of Jewish exile. The Second Temple was destroyed on the same date by Titus in 70 A.D. Other shocking calamities also occurred on the 9th of Ab — in 135 A.D. the fortress of Betar fell and Bar Kochba and his men were massacred, and Jerusalem was ploughed up by the tyrant Hadrian. On the same fateful day in 1290, King Edward I signed an edict expelling Jews from England, and on the 9th of Ab in 1492, following the terrible Inquisition, 300,000 Jews, led by the statesman and sage Don Isaac Abarbanel, began to leave Spain after Ferdinand and Isabella had signed the decree for their expulsion.

It is stated in the Talmud: “He who eats and drinks on the 9th of Ab will not live to see the crowning of Jerusalem, for the Scriptures state: ‘Rejoice ye with Jerusalem and be glad for joy with her, ye that mourn her.’” This somewhat puzzling sentence means that the value of mourning lies not only in remembering the past and applying its lessons to the present, but also in recognizing the unity of the Jewish people, the roots of their existence and the prophetic destiny still awaiting fulfillment with the coming of the Messiah.

### “The Daughter of Zion”

Tisha b'Ab is symbolized by mourning, fasting and readings of dirges from the Book of Lamentations. The ruined city of Jerusalem is personified as “the Daughter of Zion” bemoaning her fate. She weeps at night and receives no comfort. Her friends and lovers have betrayed her and she is exhorted to “let tears run down like a river day and night.”



*“How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people!  
How is she become as a widow!” (Lamentations 1: 1).*

Tisha b'Ab is observed in Israel, as it is the world over, with the fast beginning at sundown. “Echah” — the Book of Lamentations — is read in the synagogue in the evening by the dim light of candles with the congregation sitting on the floor or on low stools, and it is again read in the morning. It was written by the prophet Jeremiah who witnessed the destruction of the First Temple. Then “Kinot” are read — a collection of dirges by Jewish poets of different ages. In Jerusalem, hundreds of thousands flock to the Western Wall, last remaining structure of the Great Temple area, where they sit on the ground and pray, often all through the night.

Many Jews believe that the birth of modern Israel negates the need to mourn for the fall of Zion, whereas others see Tisha b'Ab as a symbol for all the persecutions of the Jews and their sufferings in exile. In Judaism, however, despair is always tempered by hope so that they conclude the Tisha b'Ab reading with the words:

*“Turn us unto Thee O Lord, that we may be turned.  
Renew our days as of old.”*

\* \* \* \* \*

# Good Health Department

## HEPATITIS B

If a safe, effective vaccine against cancer or Aids were available, people would queue up for hours and be willing to pay large sums to get it. There is no vaccine protection against Aids, but the world's first human anti-cancer vaccine has existed for six years — its price plummeting since then — and almost no one seems to have noticed.

Preventive immunization is available for hepatitis B, a viral disease whose complications — including chronic liver disease and primary liver cancer — kill as many people in a day as Aids kills in a year. But although hepatitis B is spread in the same ways as that disease, Aids has better "public relations" and kills quickly, rather than two, three or four decades after initial hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection.

There are as many as 80,000 carriers of the grave viral disease in Israel, and one in 10 is likely to develop severe liver complications, including cirrhosis and liver cancer, 10 to 40 years after being infected. HBV is spread the way Aids is — by blood and sexual contact, and during birth — but even the sharing of toothbrushes, nail cutters, combs and razors is known to increase the risk of HBV infection.

The Israeli Health Ministry agrees that hepatitis B can "theoretically" be transmitted in barber shops and hair salons if the scissors and razors are not carefully disinfected. Officials say they don't know of any such cases, but it's hard to trace back such a source of infection.

Also in Israel, the first cases of hepatitis B spread by a doctor using infected acupuncture needles have been confirmed. The danger of infection in this way is no longer hypothetical. Patients are urged to insist on disposable needles, or else to acquire a set of their own that are used only on them during treatments.

Carriers can't be helped at present, and there is no way of knowing which carriers will develop the complications in years to come. But non-carriers in close contact with carriers can now be immunized with hepatitis B virus vaccine. Its price has fallen in the past year or so from \$200 to less than \$10 per dose.

The genetically engineered vaccine, put on the world market two years ago, is the world's first anti-cancer vaccine, in that it provides total protection for at least seven years to non-carriers against hepatitis B-induced liver cancer, and against other incurable or severe complications as well.

Those who fall into the high risk category for hepatitis B include doctors, nurses, dentists, lab technicians, dental assistants, undertakers and hospital cleaning staff. Prisoners, homosexuals, drug addicts, hemophiliacs and others are also more likely than the general population to be carriers.

HBV-carrier mothers can pass the disease on to their babies as they pass through the birth canal or during nursing. An estimated 2,000 Israeli women carriers give birth each year. Of infants born to Israeli women who are carriers, up to 25% will within a few months of birth become carriers themselves.

American health authorities have concluded that even with their low carrier rate, screening pregnant women and vaccinating high-risk groups at government expense is highly cost effective. Doctors writing in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* concluded that if all pregnant women in the U.S. were screened, the prevention of liver disease would save \$105 million a year. If pregnant women belonging to high-risk groups were vaccinated, as many as 140 cases of acute hepatitis among newborns and 1,400 cases of chronic liver disease among infants would be prevented each year per 100,000 pregnant women screened, saving the U.S. economy \$765 million.

*"A potentially fatal but totally preventable disease is being spread needlessly in epidemic proportions."*

Dr. Sanford Kuvin, who is vice chairman of the U.S. National Foundation for Infectious Diseases, says that the carrier rate (people who were initially infected but who don't show symptoms after recovery) ranges between one to 5% of the general population in Israel (much higher among Jews of African and Oriental origin and Arabs than among Ashkenazim) and about 15% among Ethiopian Jews. Statistics show that one out of 10 of these carriers will eventually develop serious complications. Once a person is a carrier, there is nothing that can be done to prevent him from possibly developing complications, but vaccine protects non-carriers from becoming carriers. "A potentially fatal but totally preventable disease is being spread needlessly in epidemic proportions," he warns.

Around the world, there are an estimated 250-300 million carriers of HBV. It was first identified in 1967 by Dr. Baruch Blumberg of Philadelphia, who received a Nobel Prize for his discovery. It is, like all viruses, very small, consisting of a DNA core surrounded by an outer envelope that carries the hepatitis B surface antigen protein.

(Hepatitis A, the form of hepatitis without the long-term dangers of its cousin B, is highly contagious with a short incubation period of around a month, and is usually spread by direct contact or by food or water infected by feces.)

When a person is infected by HBV, the virus reproduces itself within its host. In the acute infection, the liver is inflamed and some cells die. The symptoms — vomiting, anorexia, nausea, diarrhea, fatigue and abnormalities in the sense of smell and taste — develop quickly. The body turns yellow from jaundice. Full recovery may take three to six months. For 90% of all patients, that is the end of it, because of the liver's immense capacity to regenerate. But for some of the remainder, HBV can be a death sentence. Over 1.5 million babies born around the world

last year will eventually die of HBV-related liver disease.

The remaining 10% of adults who were infected become chronic carriers. But in Africa and the Far East, about 95% of infected infants go on to become carriers and risk developing the serious complications of the disease; in the Middle East, 15-25% of infants born to carriers become carriers themselves.

These complications include fulminant hepatitis (which is fatal among one per cent of the carriers), chronic hepatitis, which may come in a more benign form, or chronic active hepatitis, a progressive and destructive liver disease. The severe form is an insidious disease that often leads to cirrhosis (a total breakdown of the liver by turning into scar tissue) or primary liver cancer.

About 5% of these carriers will eventually develop liver cancer. It is incurable, and is one of the 10 most common cancers, with some 250,000 new cases occurring around the world each year. Statistics show that it strikes men more often than women; in many countries, it is the professionals. Doctors, nurses and laboratory staffers who come in contact with blood, body fluids, needles and carrier patients, are at high risk of infection.

The *Journal of the American Medical Association* reported a case of five patients developing hepatitis B within four months after undergoing surgery at the hands of the same surgeon in an obstetrics/gynecology department. He was allowed to continue working if he wore double gloves and had informed consent from his patients. But when another patient got the disease from him, he was barred from working as a surgeon.



Dentists are at even higher risk. Numerous cases of transmission during dental treatment have been documented, including in Israel. In rural Indiana, nine cases of hepatitis B occurred suddenly, nine times the yearly average. One victim eventually developed severe liver disease, while two others had fatal fulminant hepatitis. The dentist was tested and voluntarily closed his practice.

In a hospital-based study quoted in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*, evidence of infection with the virus was found in 30% of the emergency ward nurses, 27% of the pathologists, 26% of the blood-bank workers, 24% of laboratory technicians and 17% of surgeons, compared to 5% among volunteer blood donors from the general population. Not only can these professionals become infected, but they can also be a source of infection to patients and colleagues.

But others are also at risk. Cleaning and laundry workers at hospitals are also exposed to higher risk than

the average population. Patients who undergo kidney dialysis, those suffering from hemophilia, thalassemia or leukemia requiring frequent blood transfusions, residents at institutions for the mentally handicapped, prisoners, drug abusers and homosexuals are at high risk too.

Almost all HBV is screened out of blood donations made in Israel. However, anywhere from two to seven per cent of patients who get blood transfusions are exposed to a virus called "non-A-non-B" that can also result in chronic liver diseases. Until now, non-A-non-B could not be detected in blood supplies. Only now, Chiron, a genetic engineering company in Emeryville, California, have developed a test for what they have dubbed "hepatitis C virus." Trials have shown that the test is very reliable, and it costs only about \$2 per blood sample. But it won't be approved by the FDA until later this year and won't be marketed until 1990. When it is sold here, it should eliminate the risk of getting hepatitis from blood transfusions.

Hepatitis B vaccine derived from blood plasma by the U.S. drug company Merck, Sharp and Dohme, has been available since 1982. But it was very expensive, because of the large amount of suitable plasma from which it had to be purified. The other major drawback was that disease-producing micro-organisms in the plasma might survive inactivation during manufacture and pass diseases on to the recipient. So recombinant vaccine, made without blood plasma, was seen as a vital alternative.

The genetically engineered vaccine is a relatively new story. Only in 1979 was the DNA sequence of the hepatitis B virus isolated. It was cloned by genetic engineering in *E. coli* bacteria during the next three years, then tested clinically from 1984-5, scaled up to commercial production by 1986 and registered with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration later that year. The host chosen by Merck, Sharp and Dohme, and the Belgian drug company SmithKline Biologicals to synthesize the vaccine was common baker's yeast. In the complicated procedure, the surface antigen gene of the HBV is inserted into the yeast, whose cells multiply. The material is purified and turned into a vaccine.

The vaccine is regarded as very stable and safe, without side effects. Its price has come down in the last few years from the prohibitive — around \$200 per dose — down to as little as \$5 (a smaller dose for children), up to \$10 for adults. Other companies started to produce their own recombinant vaccine, and the competition will undoubtedly lower the price even further. To be most effective, people should be re-vaccinated every seven years or so.

In most countries, the test to determine if one is a carrier of hepatitis B can be carried out at any well-equipped hospital or clinic, or through a doctor. If one is already a carrier, nothing can presently be done, except to live as healthily as possible and to avoid behavior which might give the disease to others. (Remember that most carriers will evidently not develop further complications.) For non-carriers, the vaccine is readily available through pharmacies and clinics and can be administered by any doctor. Ten dollars seems a reasonable price to pay to be safe from one of the world's great killer diseases.

(compiled from "Jerusalem Post" articles.)

# Extracts From Readers' Letters

## KENYA.—

Dear brothers and sisters in Messiah,

We thank you for your letter. We are extremely happy to hear that from now on you will be sending us the "Israel Bible Calendar."

We are also grateful for the copies of *The Mount Zion Reporter* you are sending us. This helps us when reading the Bible. We ask you to keep praying for us.

We pray that the Almighty will bless His work in Jerusalem.

Your Brother,  
R.S.

## KANSAS.—

Dear ones in Christ,

We so appreciate your letters and magazine. To know of your work in that glorious land is very gratifying. The Lord gave me a love for His Land and His People when I was first saved. I've been there eight times since 1972, and love it.

We're seeing so much prophecy fulfilled — surely Jesus is coming soon! We appreciate any and all news from you.

May God bless you abundantly is our prayer.

In His Holy Name,  
V.A.

## CANADA.—

I received your letter. I am always glad to hear news from Israel, God's Promised Land; a desert turning into a garden; a promise being fulfilled; the soon return of our Lord Jesus, coming for His Bride. I pray that God would grant you wisdom, and guidance, and keep you safe.

Praying for you,  
O.K.

## ISRAEL'S "HORIZON" IN SPACE

(continued from page 16)

off the coast of French Guinea. Once in place, it will utilize a wavelength assigned by the ITU to greatly improve telephone communication (as well as telex, facsimile and television transmissions) within Israel and international communications, and will free Israel from its dependence upon communications channels rented from Intelsat.

Israel Aircraft Industries has been the core of the practical development, and sees the development of a capacity to produce satellites for sale as one way to retrieve the profits it lost when the Lavi Fighter plane project was cancelled. Israel Aircraft Industries has been awarded the contract to build the soon-to-be launched communications satellite, or rather the two satellites, Amos-1 and Amos-2 (communications satellites are sent up in pairs, the second satellite providing a backup in case the first falters, as repair technicians cannot be dispatched).

## NORWAY.—

Dear Gordon Fauth and staff,

Shalom and greetings from Norway.

Thank you very much for *The Mount Zion Reporter*, the calendar and the letters. I appreciate it all very much.

I hope I may be able to visit Israel this year, it is about 14 years since last time. Your land and people have a special place in my heart.

God bless you all.

Your sister in Christ,  
H.H.A.

## CAMEROON.—

Dear brother in Christ,

I only knew of your magazine a short time ago when a friend gave it to me. I was so impressed with its contents and interesting reading, then finally I decided to write to your organization, requesting more information.

I pray that the Almighty will give you knowledge and understanding, and that He will bless your ministry and give you good health.

Yours in Christ,  
U.A.

Dear Readers,

We welcome your letters, your testimonies, your views on current events concerning Israel and issues that concern Christians, and points about Bible teachings and doctrines.

While up until now Israel's space activity has been of a modest nature, the launching of its first satellite signifies a literal jump into space for Israel, and further satellites will confirm this demonstrated ability. As part of this effort, Israel Aircraft Industries is also reaching for the sky and endeavoring to develop and to profit from an entirely new product; a modular satellite. They estimate that in future, the cost of launching a satellite will not be a standard price as at present, but will be determined by the space occupied by the satellite in the launching missile. For that future they have designed a satellite that can be easily adapted and changed in size for the needs of each perspective customer, Israeli or foreign. □

"And let him that is athirst come.  
And whosoever will, let him take the  
water of life freely." Rev. 22:17.

## The New Age Movement

(continued from page 6)

and they listen when "experts" propose solutions. What solutions do the experts propose? Many say that a New World Order is the only solution.

### The Technology of a New Age Order

We live in a world of technology that the ancients could scarcely imagine. We enjoy luxuries and have mechanical marvels at our fingertips that would astound any citizen of an earlier age. The blessings are mixed, though.

*"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark . . ."*

This verse has puzzled students of Bible prophecy down through the ages. After all, even if you branded each person with a mark on his forehead or hand, how could you prevent him from buying or selling things?

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*"If any man worship the beast and his image, . . . the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God."* (Rev. 14: 9-10).  
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Even if you forbid others to sell to him, there would be no way of enforcing this prohibition or of even knowing about the sale; if he had gold or money, he could always find a willing seller. Well, in our computer age, it has become possible, and possible in a way that actually makes sense.

Computer data bases are today used to record just about every fact of our lives. Among other things, computers are used by banks to keep track of credit balances, to arrange transfers, and to handle just about any kind of financial transaction. In Western countries, we use checks and credit cards to the degree that cash has almost become obsolete.

Already, there have been serious proposals made that cash should be abolished. It has been argued that if each person had a personal account number, all business could be handled just by using transfers involving that number. Wages would simply be debited from the employer's account and credited to the worker's account; when he shopped in the supermarket, the store's account would just receive the proper amount of credit from his account. It would all be handled instantly and conveniently, without any of the paper shuffling or waste of time now involved. Another benefit, it is argued, would be the virtual elimination of many types of crime. After all, if all transactions involved no cash but just computerized credit transfers, it would be impossible for many criminals to operate, or at least impossible for them to operate undetected.

There would have to be a central banking system, of course; but then, our interlocking systems of today already function as one. Also, each person would have to be issued with a completely unique number at birth; but again, this has already been proposed and would not be difficult to implement. And, most importantly, it would be necessary to have some method of validating the number and identity of the person carrying out the

transaction. This last condition has caused the most concern, but again solutions have been proposed. One of these involves the "Debit Card." These are already in existence in some countries, and are much like credit cards, except that they are used to carry out an immediate transfer of funds from your account to the other party's account. Of course, they can be stolen or lost, just like credit cards, so other, more reliable, methods of establishing identity have been suggested.

It was recently reported that a tiny computer chip has been developed which can be injected under the skin of a human, and then used to positively identify that person to an outside scanning device. Each chip, which is only the size of a cross-section of a pencil lead, could contain that person's unique number as well as other identifying information.

It has also been reported that an invisible laser tattoo placed on the hand or any other part of the body could contain an indelible number which could be read by a special scanner — in fact, by the same kind of scanner that reads bar codes on merchandise at the check-out counter today. If such a laser numbering system were used as part of a universal banking system, either the hand or the forehead would be a logical place to require the tattoo to be placed so as to be easily accessible to a computerized scanner in a public situation. This laser tattoo would be almost impossible to remove or alter, it has been reported.

What is frightening is that either of these two last methods of establishing identity could easily be used to fulfill the terms of the prophecy concerning the worldwide Beast Power. It also follows that if a universal "cashless" system using such an identification method were enacted, a person without such a number could neither buy nor sell . . . And the government would have complete control of commerce on every level. None of this has ever been possible before our age, and this alone should give food for thought. It is quite evident that not only has the political climate which could lead to a world Beast Power arrived, but also that we now have the technological means to bring about the other provisions of the prophecy.

### In Conclusion

The idea that there is anything new about the teachings of the New Age Movement is quickly laid to rest by Holy Scripture: "*Is there a thing of which it is said, See, this is new? It has been already in the ages before us*" (Ecc. 1:9). The "ages before us" indeed refers all the way back to man's beginnings. The three primal lies of Satan are expressed repeatedly by New Agers: "Man is like God"; "Humanity needs transformation"; "Knowledge

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*"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition. Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God."* (2 Thess. 2: 3-4).  
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(continued on page 22)

# God's Redemption Plan for the Gentiles

## — The Story of Ruth —

by Jean Dill, Julia Rawson and Dianna Hassler

Few stories in the Bible have as much significance for the Christian of today as does the story of Ruth. It depicts the faith of a heathen Moabite woman and her sacrificial love for her mother-in-law, an Israelite. In doing so, it weaves through the genealogies and reveals God's plan for grafting the Gentiles into the Jewish seed, making them joint heirs of the promises and of that most wonderful of gifts — salvation.

Ruth, a Moabite and a Gentile, lived with her people in the land of Moab, on the eastern side of the Dead Sea, during the days when the Judges ruled Israel. There was at that time a great famine in the Land of Israel. Naomi and her husband, who were Ephrathites living in Bethlehem-Judah, decided that they should take their two sons, Mahlon and Chilion, and move to "greener pastures" in the country of Moab. There they settled, and eventually their sons married women of the land: Ruth and Orpah.

It was not a happy sojourn. Naomi's husband died, and later both of her sons. Naomi had heard that the Lord had again "visited his people by giving them bread," and she decided that it was time to return to her own people, in the land of Judah. Her two daughters-in-law wept and said that they did not want to leave her, but would surely return with her to her people. Naomi was grateful for their devotion, and blessed them for it, but did her best to persuade them to stay in their own country, with their own kinspeople. After some persuasion, Orpah finally kissed her goodby and returned to her parent's house: but nothing would persuade Ruth. Some of the most beautiful verses in the Bible are those in which Ruth says: "Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God. Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me." (Ruth 1: 16-17).

Naomi and her faithful daughter-in-law Ruth left Moab and journeyed until they came to Bethlehem, in Judah. As they entered Bethlehem, "all the city was moved concerning them, and they said, Is this Naomi?" Naomi answered, "Call me Mara: for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me. I went out full, and the Lord hath brought me home empty. Why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the Lord hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?" (In Hebrew, Naomi means 'blessedness' or 'pleasantness', while Mara means 'bitterness').

In those days, there were not many ways in which widows could earn a living. Naomi had a kinsman, "a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his

name was Boaz." It was the time of the barley harvest, and Ruth went out to glean after the reapers, and by chance chose the field that belonged to Boaz. This "gleaning" was a provision provided under the old laws in Leviticus 19: 9-10, that gleanings of the harvest must be left for the poor. "And when you reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not make clean riddance of the corners of thy field when thou reapest . . ." (Lev. 23:22).



Boaz saw Ruth gleaning in his field and inquired of his men who she might be. They replied that she was the Moabitish damsel that had come back with his kinswoman Naomi. The Lord put it into his heart to speak kindly unto Ruth. He asked her not to glean in another field but to abide there by his maidens, and he told her that when she was thirsty she could go to the vessels and drink of that which the young men would draw for her. He instructed his men to treat her respectfully, and told them to purposely let fall some of the handfuls of grain for her.

Ruth was overwhelmed by his kindness. She "fell on her face, and bowed herself to the ground and said unto him, Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldest take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger?"

Boaz was deeply impressed with her, and answered, "It hath fully been shewed me all that thou hast done unto thy mother-in-law since the death of thine husband and how thou hast left thy father and thy mother and the land of thy nativity and art come into a people which thou knewest not theretofore." He went on to bless her, saying, "The Lord recompense thy work and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel under whose wings thou art come to trust." (Ruth 2: 11-12).

Ruth asked of Boaz, "Let me find favour in thy sight, my Lord; for that thou hast comforted me, and for that thou hast spoken friendly unto thine handmaid, though I be not like unto one of thine handmaidens."

Boaz said unto her, "At mealtime come thou hither and eat of the bread and dip thy morsel in the vinegar." Having accepted, she "sat beside the reapers: and he

reached\* her parched corn," which she ate. (\* handed).

(Note that this parched "corn" was actually prepared from grains of wheat or barley not fully ripe, which were sometimes roasted in a pan or an iron plate. Corn as we know it today had yet to be discovered in the Americas.)

After Ruth had worked until evening, she beat out what she had gleaned, which was around an ephah, equal to nine-tenths of a bushel. Her mother-in-law was surprised when she brought home this quantity of barley, and asked her how she had managed to do so well. When Ruth told her about Boaz, who had been so kind to her, Naomi explained that Boaz was "one of our next kinsmen" ("next kinsman" meant "one who had a right to redeem"). She advised Ruth to do as Boaz had suggested and glean only in his field. Ruth did this, going out each day of the harvest to glean in the field of Boaz; and she was much admired by the people for her virtue and for her devotion to her mother-in-law.

Naomi was not at all displeased by Boaz's kindness toward Ruth. She desired that Ruth should have her inheritance and a secure position, and the marriage of Boaz and Ruth would not only insure this but would also raise up the seed of her dead son and preserve the family name.

We read in chapter 3 that Naomi told Ruth that Boaz would be winnowing barley that night in the threshing floor. Naomi instructed her to wash, anoint, and apparel herself, then to go down to the floor; but not to make herself known until Boaz had finished eating and drinking. She was to mark the place where he should lie then to go in and uncover his feet. He would then tell her what she should do. Being obedient and trusting Naomi, Ruth said, "All that thou sayest unto me I will do."

When at midnight Boaz turned over and saw a woman at his feet, he was surprised, and asked, "Who art thou?"

She answered, "I am Ruth, thine handmaid; spread thy skirt over thine handmaid; for thou art a near kinsman."

Ruth was asking more than it might appear. The expression "spread thy skirt" imports protection and the assumption of responsibility. Today in Israel, at a Jewish marriage the man throws the skirt of his 'Talith' or robe over his wife and covers her head with it. The Hebrew word 'goel' or 'kinsman' means literally "one who redeems." In that day, when a Hebrew was obliged to sell his inheritance on account of poverty, it was the duty of the nearest relative to redeem it for him (Lev. 25: 25). By invoking Boaz's relationship as a "near kinsman," Ruth was asking him to redeem her late husband's inheritance, so that his line would not die.

Boaz blessed her, and said that all of his people knew she was a virtuous woman. He told her that he was willing to do all that she required, but pointed out that there was one other who was a nearer kinsman than he, who by law had the first right of redemption. He said that he would see if this man wished to redeem the inheritance, or if he would let the right pass to him.

Wasting no time, the next morning Boaz went up to the gate of the city, and sat down. The kinsman of whom Boaz spoke came by; unto him he called out, "Ho, such a one! Turn aside, sit down here." Boaz also took ten men of the elders of the city and asked them to sit down.

"And he said unto the kinsman, Naomi, that is come again out of the country of Moab, sellest a parcel of land, which was our brother Elimelech's. And I thought to advertise thee, saying, Buy it before the inhabitants and

before the elders of my people. If thou wilt redeem it, redeem it: but if thou wilt not redeem it, then tell me, that I may know: for there is none to redeem it beside thee; and I am after thee. And he said, I will redeem it."

"Then said Boaz, What day thou buyest the field of the hand of Naomi, thou must buy it also of Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance. And the kinsman said, I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem it."

Since the right to redeem the inheritance had passed to Boaz, he drew off his shoe to seal the deed. This was an ancient custom concerning matters of redemption and of the sale of land; while there was no divine law ordaining this custom, it may have originated from the fact that the right to tread the soil belonged to the owner of it, making the transfer of a sandal an appropriate representation of the transfer of property.

"And Boaz said unto the elders, and unto all the people, Ye are witnesses this day, that I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, of the hand of Naomi. Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place." (Ruth 4: 9-10).

"And all the people that were in the gate, and the elders, said: We are witnesses, the Lord make the woman that is come into thine house like Rachel and like Leah, which two did build the house of Israel: and do thou worthily in Ephratah, and be famous in Bethlehem." (Verse 11).

God blessed the union of Ruth and Boaz. They had a son, Obed, who, as is written in the genealogies, became the father of Jesse, the father of David, king of Israel. Through this genealogy came forth our own Lord and Savior, Jesus — in Hebrew, Yahshua.

All the stories in the Bible are there for a purpose, and the story of Ruth has special significance. In ancient times, the promises were all made to God's chosen people, the Jews; yet here we have a heathen Moabitess who through faith became part of the royal lineage which resulted in the birth of Jesus the Messiah, the King of Kings. Thus was the plan for the grafting in of the Gentiles, God's plan for "all people and all generations," perfected. Ruth was our spiritual forbear, a precursor to things to come. Under Christ, and following his example, we have also been "grafted" into the tree of Abraham and are "joint heirs" to the promises.

"Sha'al Shalom Yerushalayim (Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!)

— Jean Dill, Julia Rawson, Dianna Hassler

On a clear day here in Jerusalem, looking eastward toward Jordan, you can see the hills of ancient Moab. The Moabites are no longer a people. Many were dispersed or driven from their land by war. The remaining Moabite population was assimilated many centuries ago among the Arabian tribes that took possession of the land. Editor

"For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation. This is my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it." Psalms 132:13, 14.

# “It Just Isn’t True”

by Leslie Moxham

The State of Israel is under attack from a variety of sources. Sadly, one of these is from Evangelical believers. We shall take up their various arguments used against Israel and present a biblical reply in a series of articles.

It is said that it is “by false interpretation of prophecy” that “The Nation of Israel (the Jews) are still God’s chosen people and are therefore entitled to the Land.”

There are two issues here, yet they are inseparable. The first is the implied assertion that Israel has ceased to be the special chosen people of God. The other is that the Land of Israel does not now belong to Israel, although it once was Israel’s possession.

A close examination of Scripture shows that Abraham was chosen for a specific purpose and that choice involved himself, his posterity and some specially allocated property, namely, the Land of Israel. A leading Rabbi has recently stated “The first revelation to Abraham focused on The Land and not on any other command.” He continued, “The Covenant between God and Abraham was a tripartite agreement between the Holy one, blessed be He, Abraham and The Land of Israel.” In Gen. 12-1, Abraham was separated “from your country” to “The Land which I will show you.” The next time “The Land” is mentioned, God said to Abraham “All the land which you see, I will give it to you and to your descendants FOREVER.” If “forever” means anything, it means “for all time,” and not for a limited period. Either God said this to His chosen with ‘His tongue in His cheek,’ or He said it knowing He would change His mind and take the land away from the descendants of Abraham. Should either of these be the case, the whole subject of the integrity and faithfulness of God is called into question.

When God spoke of Abraham’s “descendants,” He made it perfectly clear to whom He was referring. While Abraham had other sons by natural birth, he had one only son by promise through whom God’s purposes would be fulfilled. Three times in Gen. 22, Isaac is referred to as “your son, your ONLY son.” Did God mean “your only son”? Or was it a ‘slip of the tongue’? The promise of the land was never made to Abraham’s other sons. To Isaac alone did God say, “to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands and I will establish My oath which I swore to your father Abraham.” By no sane use of exegesis can the sons of Ishmael or the other natural sons of Abraham be called “the descendants of Isaac.” So the Land of Israel was given exclusively to Isaac and his seed.

The Lord confirmed His special choice of Jacob in His words “I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of your father Isaac.” At no time did God speak to Esau in this way. God continued to say to Jacob “The Land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants.” Similarly, the Land was never assigned to Esau or his family or to any others.

Scripture confirms that a “three fold cord is not easily broken.” He promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob that they would be ‘special’ to Him and that The Land would be their possession ‘in perpetuity.’ To allege that Israel is no longer the Lord’s people and therefore The Land is not theirs in our time is to take plain Scriptures and twist them to mean something quite different.

Through the prophet Jeremiah, God said “I am a Father to Israel, and Ephraim is My first-born.” The question arises, for how long is God the Father to Israel? The Lord supplies the answer in this same chapter (Jer. 31). In verse 36 God said, “If this fixed order (the sun, the moon and the stars) departs from before Me” declares the Lord, “Then the offspring of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me forever.” The “fixed order” has not departed, and neither will the Nation of Israel until all God’s purposes have been completed.

At no point did The Lord covenant The Land conditionally. He did not lay down any ground rules for Abraham or his descendants or impose any provisions or contingencies. The Land was covenanted by God “swearing” to Abraham and to his posterity unconditionally. From the time God gave The Land to Abraham, The Place called “Israel” and The People named “Israel” have been inseparably bound together. The Community “Israel” and The Country “Israel” are indivisible. God has declared that He will “cast off all the offspring of Israel” when “the heavens above can be measured and the foundations of the earth searched out below.” Since modern science has not accomplished such feats we are safe in saying, “The Nation of Israel are still God’s chosen people, and ‘The Land’ is still their Land.”

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## 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.

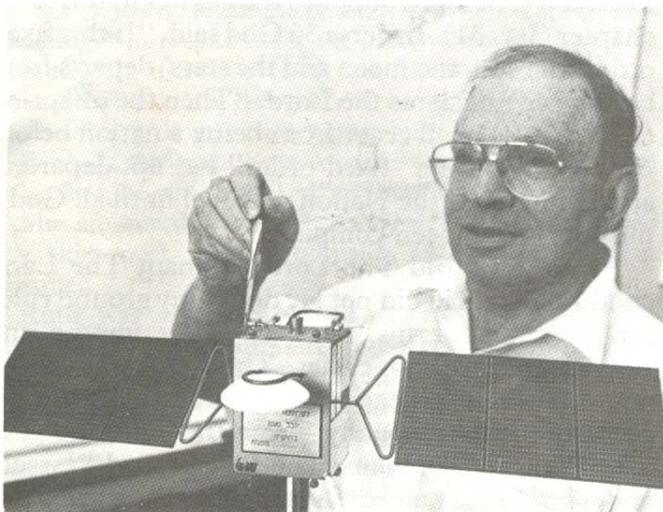
# Israel's "Horizon" in Space

by Yitzchak Dinur

The 100 fuming volcanoes on 'Io,' the innermost of Jupiter's larger moons, are one of the phenomena which excite Professor Yuval Ne'eman, the founder of Israel's Space Agency, when he thinks about outer space. He also feels a touch of pride, because Tel Aviv University scientists using their 40-inch telescope were, in 1974, the first to report evidence of volcanic activity there in the form of clouds of sulphur and sodium in Io's trajectory. This discovery was confirmed in 1979 by the high-resolution photographs radioed back by Voyager II as it flew past Jupiter.

## Satellite and Missile

This and other space studies were being carried out long before Israel launched its first space satellite 'Ofek-1' (Horizon-1) on September 19, 1988 and even before the Israel Space Agency was established in 1983. (Israel's satellite communications ground station in the Elah Valley, southwest of Jerusalem, is now in its 17th year of operation). While the satellite provided a sensation in the world's newspapers for a short time, and brought Israel's scientific and technical capabilities to



Professor Yuval Ne'eman, founder of Israel's Space Agency with a model of Ofek 1 (Horizon 1), the first of a series of experimental satellites.

general notice, this was not its aim. The launch was designed to demonstrate to Israel's space research community and its citizens that the country's industry had the capacity to orbit a satellite and, in addition, to check its functioning in a space environment.

It also provided Israel with an entrance ticket to the international space club (Israel is the eighth member after the U.S., the U.S.S.R., France, Britain, India, China and Japan) and was a marvelous 40th birthday present from Israel's engineers and scientists to their country.

Ofek-1 was an experimental satellite, the first of a series, and, like any other prototype machine, its whole purpose was to show that it can work and provide data about itself and its subsystems. It weighed 156 kgs, was 2.3 meters long, orbited East to West every 90 minutes and rotated about its main axis for stability and to allow

its solar panels, mounted on the body, to face the sun and generate the required electrical energy; it collected data on space environment conditions and the earth's magnetic field, and tested the quality of transmission from space and its ability to withstand vacuum and weightless conditions. Ofek-1 remained in orbit for 118 days; 28 days longer than anticipated. It re-entered the atmosphere and was burnt up on Saturday, January 14, 1989, four months after it was launched.

Scientists who analyzed the operation of the satellite concluded it had been "a complete success, from the successful launch through the almost flawless operation during its stay in space."

A unique feature of Ofek-1 was that its orbit was to the West; opposite from the satellites of the rest of the world which travel East. This is due to the fact that Israel has to launch to the West over the Mediterranean Sea.

The next Israeli satellite, 'Ofek-2', to be dispatched in about two years, will contain additional equipment and will carry out a major experiment. A national competition is being held to decide whether the experiment is to be in astronomy, earth sensing, biological science or lasers.

No less important than the satellite itself was the 20-ton, two-stage, Shavit, solid-fuel rocket that was used to put it in to orbit. This was part of a system specially developed, in Israel, for satellite launching. The missile had to be very strong to get the satellite into space and it had to have superb navigational systems to place it exactly in orbit. Its success stunned the world, and the capacity to produce such sophisticated missiles is worrying military establishments outside Israel. However, this military capacity is a spin-off and not the main objective. Israel is developing the various aspects of its space research and activity in order to aid Israel's economy and develop human potential.

Space activity throughout the world is very expensive, but it holds within itself a chance for enormous returns, and these are not only financial profits. Professor Ne'eman notes that great changes have occurred in Western societies as a result of technologies originally developed for space research. He therefore feels that research and development of projects connected with space are a vital necessity and will make a significant contribution to Israel's future economic and technological independence.

## Future Plans

Indeed, there are already plans afoot to send up a commercial satellite by 1992. An Israeli company registered in London, General Satellite Corporation, is intending to develop, produce and put into orbit a communications satellite to be called Amos-1. This will be a geostationary satellite to be located 36,000km. above Zaire, which was the place in space that was allocated to Israel by the International Telecommunications Union.

The company has begun practical activity and is already selling satellite transponders. As plans stand today, the satellite will be placed in position by a French Ariane space missile, to be launched from a small island

(continued on page 11)

# NEWS DIRECT FROM ISRAEL

All Items from "The Jerusalem Post"

## U.S.: Israel Would Have to Absorb Huge Jewish Exodus

WASHINGTON — U.S. officials yesterday said that they cannot "numerically or physically" accommodate the larger number of Soviet Jews likely to leave the USSR in the coming years and that many, eventually, have no choice but to settle in Israel.

The U.S. assessment is that as many as 500,000 Soviet Jews are interested in leaving the country.

More than 50,000 Soviet Jews are expected to receive permission to emigrate this year, U.S. officials and American Jewish activists said. That figure could easily increase to 75,000 next year, they added, especially if the Soviet Union passes pending legislation codifying its freer emigration policies.

## 'Israel Must Be Prepared to Absorb 50,000 Soviet Immigrants Annually'

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said yesterday that the nation has to prepare itself to absorb 50,000 Soviet immigrants annually.

The Soviet authorities would change the regulations in the near future to dispense with the need for potential immigrants to submit affidavits, Shamir predicted in the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee.

The aliyah movement in the Soviet Union had been much more active lately, and it was encountering much less inhibitive pressure from the authorities, he said. In some regions the authorities were even showing a cooperative attitude.

## Syrian Jews' Situation Reported Deteriorating

Heads of the Organization for Syrian Jewry warned yesterday that the condition of the approximately 5,000 Jews there has deteriorated considerably.

Matsliah Shatah, chairman of the organization, told journalists at a Tel Aviv press conference that Syrian Jews continue to live in an atmosphere of siege.

He said that Jews continue to be subject to harassment, both by the government and the Palestinian communities that often live near Jewish quarters in various cities. He added that Jews are limited in their business opportunities and cannot leave the country, even for medical purposes.

Matsliah said the condition of the 500 single Jewish women over 30 years of age is especially grave, as there are no single Jewish men. In addition he said that "the young generation does not get married and raise a family because of the difficult economic situation."

Dr. David Silvera, a member of the committee, urged that the plight of Syrian Jews be addressed with the same vigour and openness employed in

the campaign to save Soviet Jewry. "We don't see any results for the alleged secret [government] action on behalf of Syrian Jews," he said.

Silvera suggested that the campaign for Syrian Jewry should stress the fact that Syria is a signatory to the UN Human Rights declaration, which gives every individual the right to leave his country.

"Our goal is to recruit world public opinion, as well as enlightened governments, to join us to save our brethren suffering in Syria," he said.

## 14 Die as Terrorist Steers Jerusalem-Bound Bus Into Abyss

A bearded Palestinian man shouting "Allahu Akbar" (God is great) seized the steering wheel of a No. 405 Jerusalem-bound Egged bus from Tel Aviv yesterday and sent it crashing over a steep precipice, killing 14 passengers and injuring at least 27, seven of them seriously.

Among the dead were several who were trapped inside the bus and burned alive when it exploded in flames at the bottom of the ravine.

## Bus Terrorist Came From Gaza Camp

Police last night identified Abd al-Hadi Suleiman Ghneim, 25, of Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp, as the perpetrator of the terror attack on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv bus last Thursday. The police say Ghneim is cooperating with his interrogators.

The Islamic Jihad, in communiques from Beirut and Amman, claimed responsibility on Friday for the attack, which killed 14 and wounded 27. The communique said the aim of the attack was to "drive the Jewish usurpers out of the Holy Land." Gaza sources said that Ghneim was politically unknown, and had committed no previous security offences.

A police spokesman said that Ghneim was unemployed for the last year. Reports said the suspect had planned his attack for weeks, taking the same route repeatedly so he could know precisely where to steer the bus over the edge of the road. The suspect reportedly acted in revenge for a friend who was beaten by the IDF.

## Crowd Vents Anger On Peres at Funeral

Vice-Premier Shimon Peres was the first political target of public rage over the death of 14 people in the terrorist bus plunge when demonstrators attacked him before the Jerusalem funeral of 40-year-old Miriam Zarafi, one of the victims.

Peres, a friend of Zarafi's husband, was encircled by police while he tried to reason with members of the crowd, but gave up and left the scene before the funeral. Witnesses said enraged mourners tried to attack Peres at the Sanhedria funeral parlour.

## Opponents Call for Arafat's Death

DAMASCUS — The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command Denounced PLO leader Yasser Arafat as a traitor yesterday and appeared to call for his death.

"We are confident that the Palestinian people will carry out the peoples's verdict against Arafat and all other traitors who abandon the cause of their people," said a PFLP-GC spokesman.

The comment followed Arafat's remarks in Paris earlier this week that the PLO charter is obsolete. The PFLP-GC, led by Ahmed Jibril, is outside the PLO.

The PFLP-GC spokesman appealed to Palestinians in the territories and elsewhere to ensure that the intifada continues.

"Arafat, who announced clearly his betrayal of the cause of his people and nation, does not represent the will of our people," the spokesman said.

## Radical Palestinians Say That Arafat Can't Cancel Covenant

Egypt yesterday welcomed Yasser Arafat's statement that the Palestinian Covenant was obsolete, but radical Palestinian leaders criticized the PLO chief's move. Even some moderate Palestinians expressed discomfort with further PLO concessions as long as Israel refuses to consider negotiations.

Arafat on Tuesday used the French word "caducue," which means lapsed or void, to describe the 1968 covenant that calls for Israel's dissolution.

Egyptian presidential adviser Osama el-Baz, in a late interview with French Television, said that Arafat's statement "proves beyond any doubt" the PLO's sincere intentions to put an end to regional violence and to work for a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem.

But in Damascus, radical PLO leader George Habash said the PLO would remain bound by the covenant, and "not Arafat nor another Palestinian can cancel the covenant through the hot air" of a media interview.

"Arafat can establish for himself a new organization, but the PLO will not cancel this historic document that is the ideological base for its activities," Habash said. "And the Palestinians in the territories won't lend their hands to such a deed."

Habash added that Arafat could raise the issue of the covenant at the next meeting of the Palestine National Council, which must vote by two-thirds majority to revise the charter, according to provisions\* in the document itself.

Other radical Syrian-based PLO groups also denounced Arafat, and rejectionist leader Abu Musa said he was seeking a meeting of groups opposed to Arafat to select an alternative leadership.

\*Note — The provisions mentioned above refer to Article 33 of the Palestinian National Covenant, which is as follows:

Article 33: This Charter shall not be amended save by [vote of] a majority of two-thirds of the total membership of the National Congress of the Palestine Liberation Organization [taken] at a special session convened for that purpose.

## 'Arafat is Building an Army in Lebanon for Palestinian State'

LONDON — PLO chairman Yasser Arafat is building an army for a future Palestinian state and 200 fighters have completed basic training in South Lebanon for the new force, *Jane's Defence Weekly* reported yesterday.

The magazine, published in London, said Arafat wanted the force to replace existing militias within the PLO.

Senior officers of Arafat's Fatah faction, the largest group in the PLO, were running training courses near the Mieh Mieh camp east of Sidon, Jane's said.

It said the officers were graduates of Indian, Pakistani and East Bloc military academies and also included veterans of the Jordanian army.

Two weeks ago, some 200 Palestinians completed basic training for the Palestine army at the Rashidiyah refugee camp south of Tyre.

Jane's said the army has been re-equipped with new Kalashnikov assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenades and had shoulder-held SA-7 surface-to-air missiles, anti-aircraft guns and mortars in its arsenal. "Today, Arafat controls about 2,000 full-time trained fighters led by hand-picked officers and about 7,500 part-time militiamen in South Lebanon," the report said.

## Abu Musa Group: We'll Use Arms in Intifada

DAMASCUS — A Syrian-based radical Palestinian guerrilla group said it plans to escalate violence in the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza and denounced Arab summit support for the PLO.

"We are seeking to make an alliance with [leaders of the Palestinian uprising] to carry out violent attacks against the Israelis, to move from using stones to using weapons," said Abdel-Hadi Nashash, spokesman for the *Fatah Uprising* group.

"We believe the intifada is about to use armed violence," he told Reuters in an interview on Wednesday.

*Fatah Uprising* leader Abu Musa broke away from Yasser Arafat's Mainstream Fatah group in 1983.

"Our cells in the occupied territories have completed their military organization," Nashash said. "The near future will see an escalation in military confrontation with the Israelis."

## Charges of Corruption in Intifada

Tension is running high in the underground leadership of the uprising over charges of corruption in the distribution of PLO funds sent from Jordan to support the Intifada, Arab sources in East Jerusalem said yesterday.

A leaflet signed by the "Palestinian Popular Army" said PLO chief Yasser Arafat had dispatched a team to Jordan to investigate how millions of dollars earmarked for the uprising had disappeared. The leaflet lists names of persons who allegedly embezzled funds, including a deported mayor.

## Ultra-Orthodox Buy Bullet-Proof Vests for Visits to Western Wall

Ultra-Orthodox Jews living in Jerusalem have begun buying bullet-proof vests, an importer of these items said yesterday.

The vests, he said, were worn by men who went regularly from the area of Mea Shearim to the Western Wall, passing through the Damascus Gate and the Street of the Chain, an area in which several Jews have been stabbed. Although these incidents had also occurred in the past, it was only recently, he said, that those going through the area regularly began to take this extra precaution.

## Reunified Jerusalem Day

Jerusalem the golden, the incomparable, Israel's eternal capital, yesterday marked the 22nd anniversary of its reunification by Israeli troops in a war of defence against the combined legions of three Arab enemy-states. The marking of the Day amounted this time to something less than a fully fledged celebration. In the eighteenth month of the Palestinian uprising, Jerusalem is more divided by national loyalties than it ever was since Israel's takeover in 1967.



## Maccabiah Games Launched

RAMAT GAN — Thousands packed the National Stadium here last night as Hanoch Budin, the amputee swimmer and two-time gold medallist at the Seoul Paralympics, used his one (left) hand to light the Maccabiah Games flame that will burn until the final ceremony. Thus he sparked off the ten-day jamboree of sport that will envelop the country.

Apart from this poignant moment, last night was an evening of pure exuberance and delight, combining Olympic traditions with imaginative ideas, as the 4,000 participants from 44 countries and 50,000 spectators revelled in the thrilling launch of the Bar Mitzvah (13th) Games.

The Spectators looked on in delight as the athletes marched into the stadium, sang in unison to Hebrew folk songs performed by some of the country's top entertainers, and oohed at brilliant overhead laser and firework displays.

The stadium's VIP box was filled with foreign dignitaries, President Herzog, the Prime Minister, and more ministers than seen during a complete term in the Knesset.

As the planned section of the ceremony wound up at 10:00 p.m. the unplanned part — a mass hora by 15,000 athletes and participants in the ceremony — began.

This was not Seoul, but it was no less enjoyable, because of its gay informality, its colorful commitment and above all its spirit of unity, reflected in the theme song of "Belonging . . . of knowing forever that I belong."



Opening celebrations of the 13th Maccabiah Games, at the Ramat Gan Stadium, near Tel Aviv.

## Armenian Quake Victims Coming to Israel for Treatment

Medical cooperation between Israel and the Soviet Union is to begin a new, civilian phase this week when 64 victims of last winter's earthquake in Soviet Armenia are brought to Israel for six weeks of medical care. This will include being fitted for artificial limbs and treatment for crush syndrome.

The move follows the dispatch to the Soviet Union of three IDF medical rescue missions in the past seven months which Soviet officials have lauded as humanitarian gestures which "improve the atmosphere" between the two countries.

## Poles Attack Jews at Auschwitz

OSWIECIM, Poland — Polish workers on Friday attacked a group of American Jews protesting against the Catholic convent next to Auschwitz.

Witnesses said 20 local residents, five policemen and a Catholic priest watched as six construction workers assaulted seven New York Jews, dragging them away from the steps to the Carmelite convent.

The seven were demonstrating for the removal of the convent. The workers shouted obscenities at them and a young Catholic student priest encouraged them during the 20-minute melee, yelling "Rip off their skullcaps. Drag them out." The Jews shouted "Nazi Poles, anti-Semites," as they were dragged down the steps and dumped outside the convent gate.

Two or three of the Jews, who were led by Rabbi Avraham Weiss of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, New York, were punched and kicked. Several were scratched and bruised and their clothes ripped.

"Come and help us," Weiss called to the Catholic priest who watched them being dragged. "You are turning your back on us like your church did 50

years ago," Weiss shouted.

In New York, a spokesman for the Anti-Defamation League called the attack "horrendous, ugly and reminiscent of the atmosphere of pogroms during World War II."

Weiss, who led the Jews in climbing a fence into the convent ground, called off the protest after the fight, and said he would be back with 100 European Jews who were gathering in nearby Krakow.

Poland's government newspaper *Rzeczpospolita* accused the protesting Jews of making a terrifying attack on Polish nuns, saying they were guilty of "organized Provocation."

The newspaper did not report that the Jews were attacked.

A report by the official news agency PAP in other newspapers also ignored the violence against the Jews and accused them of hostile shouts against the nuns.

### Poles Jeer at Jews Protesting at Auschwitz Convent

OSWIECIM, Poland — Jewish students from all over Europe yesterday demonstrated amid a crowd of hostile Poles to demand the removal of a Catholic convent from the former Nazi death camp of Auschwitz.

About 200 Polish residents of Oswiecim, the Polish name for Auschwitz, shouted and laughed at the dozens of Jews as they symbolically blew a ritual ram's horn, a shofar, to bring down the convent walls.

But there was no repeat of the violence of 10 days ago when Polish workers beat seven American Jews after they climbed over the fence of the nunnery, which adjoins the camp where the Nazis killed four million people, mainly Jews.

A statement read out yesterday by the student group's leader, Belgian historian Bernard Sachecky, said Polish-born Pope John Paul was responsible for its presence at Auschwitz despite agreement that it should be removed by last February.

The Jews accused the pope of stubborn silence on the issue.

Sachecky said the nuns were hidden behind a wall of obstinacy, fear and hatred and were refusing to leave the convent despite the agreement with the church.

"We are here to sound the shofar so that the walls of incomprehension, fear and hatred behind which you are hidden come tumbling down."

As the horn sounded a woman in the crowd shouted "kukuryku", the Polish equivalent of "cock-a-doodle-doo", and people in the crowd laughed.

Cardinal Franciszek Macharski of Krakow pledged in 1986 to remove the nuns, but instead the building is now being repaired.

"What are you doing? You are bandits." a Polish woman shouted at the demonstrators. A man yelled: "Where are the Police? How can these people tell us what to do in our country? Perhaps they want us to kneel in front of them?"

Meanwhile, the head of the Jewish side in the negotiations with the Catholic hierarchy over the issue, Theo Klein of France, has called in Paris for a total freeze on relations between Jews and Catholics. Klein also asked the leaders of the Jewish communities of the world to refrain from meeting with the Pope.

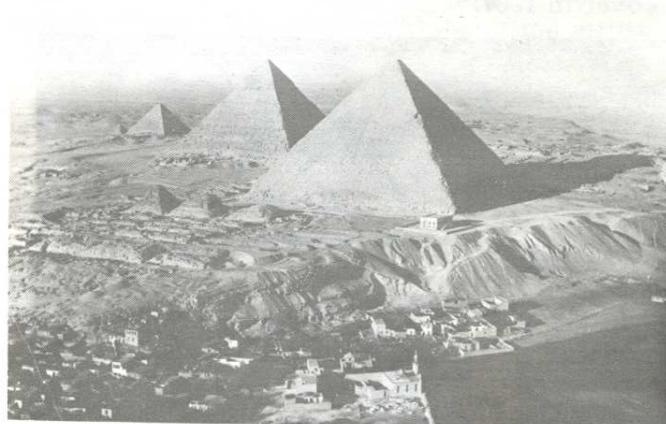
### Local Poles Want Nuns to Stay at Camp Convent

Brussels — Over 1,300 residents of Oswiecim, the Polish city near the site of the Auschwitz death camp, have expressed their opposition to the removal of a Carmelite convent from the camp. The convent's removal has been repeatedly demanded by Jewish organizations around the world.

In an open letter published last week in the Catholic weekly *Slowo Powzechnie*, 1,375 out of the 50,000 Oswiecim inhabitants expressed support for the 15 Carmelite nuns who since 1985 have occupied a building located in the former death camp. In their letter, the residents also denounced what they termed "intolerable pressures" exerted by "groups of Jews" in order to force the Polish nuns to leave their convent.

The removal of the convent was stipulated in the terms of the Catholic-Jewish accord signed in February, 1987 in Geneva.

The accord stipulated that the nuns would be transferred to an interreligious center near Auschwitz, but not on its grounds. No sign has come from Poland that construction of this new center has started.



### Cheops Chompers foiled

GIZA, EGYPT — The famous pyramid of Cheops, cleared of rats, insects and chunky salt crystals eating away at its structure, was reopened to the public recently.

The 4,600-year-old great pyramid was closed last July, for the first time in more than a century, to treat hundreds of cracks in its limestone and granite walls and to remove eroding salt particles.

Using chisels and airblowers, restorers delicately scraped off salt crystals sticking to the pyramid's walls and chambers and sucking away at its limestone.

Experts said humidity in the 450-feet (147-meter) tall pyramid and the breath of hundreds of sweaty visitors touching the walls each day had exacerbated the salt problem.

A television circuit has been installed, primarily to control the number of visitors, along with a new lighting system which will not emit much heat. More than 500 cracks, some of which loosened bits of limestone in the chambers and corridors, have been treated.

A new entrance to a steep 100-meter (330-foot) long corridor ending in an unfinished chamber was opened to the public for the first time since the late 1800's.

Some Egyptologists think the chamber was meant to house the body of the Pharaoh Cheops but was discarded as the pyramid was being built and he was transformed from a mere king into a god. Others say it was built to mislead tomb robbers. The pyramid of Cheops, one of three at Giza near Cairo, is believed to have been built as a tomb for its deceased pharaoh.

The renovation of the great pyramid was part of an overhaul on the Giza plateau to protect its monuments from deterioration. The pyramid of Mycerinus will soon be closed for similar restoration work.

The scarred 4,600-year-old Sphinx, guardian of the pyramids of Cheops, Chephren and Mycerinus, is also being given the treatment for problems ranging from salt crystals to faulty restoration in the past.

### Supreme Court Overturns Banning of 'The Last Temptation of Christ'

*The Last Temptation of Christ* will be screened in Israel from next week after the Supreme Court decided yesterday that its offensiveness to the beliefs of many Christians was not sufficient reason to ban the film.

In overturning last October's decision of the Theater and Film Censorship Board, the five judges decided in a 28-page ruling that it was "not enough that the movie is likely to stir up opposition or even offence in a portion of those who choose to see it . . .

"There are a lot of people out there looking for ammunition against Israel and they will use [the court's decision] to arouse anti-Israel feelings," Rev. Alfred Sawyer, Anglican rector of Christ Church in the Old City, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

Bishop Timothy, of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate, said that the ban should have been respected "not just because a large part of the population believes in the divinity of Jesus, but because this is the cradle of Christianity. They should not show, in this holy place, a film which insults the followers of Jesus."

*The Last Temptation* was directed by Martin Scorsese and was based on a novel by Nikos Kazantzakis, better known as the author of *Zorba the Greek*.

Religious groups staged protests at cinemas in the U.S., Britain and other parts of the world where the film was shown, and accused Scorsese and the film's producers of blasphemy. Many theaters refused to show it for fear of retaliation by militant Christians. But Israel and South Africa were among the few countries to legally ban the movie through a censorship board.

The film was nominated for an Academy Award and was a box-office success. Some critics panned it more for being heavy-handed than sensational.

### Moslems Appealing

Israel TV reported last night that the heads of the Moslem communities in Israel are appealing to the High Court of Justice against the distribution of Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*. The Keter Publishing House reported Sunday that all 4,000 copies of the first printing of the Hebrew translation had been snapped up in three days.

### Crowded Buses a Threat to Modesty

Men and women should sit on separate sides of buses, a "committee on modesty" in Jerusalem's haredi community proposes in leaflets pasted up in the city's Mea Shearim area. Crowded buses are a threat to modesty and this is one way of coping. Another is that women should stand in the back of the bus and men in the front if no seats are empty. But what if a crowded bus pulls up to the stop? The leaflet's answer is simple: only men should get on.



### Clash at Western Wall

Women guards hired by the rabbi of the Western Wall, Meir Yehuda Getz, clashed with members of the "Women of the Wall" group at their monthly Rosh Hodesh prayer session yesterday. The Women had requested female guards, and Rabbi Getz hired them from a private security company to keep order. The guards, however, according to some of the women, acted hostilely towards them, telling them to "stop praying and get out of here." MK Avraham Burg (Labour) yesterday sent a letter to Minister of Religious Affairs Zevulun Hammer urging him not to give in to violent ultra-Orthodox demands and to enable all Jews, women and men, to pray at the Wall.

At previous gatherings members of the group, who include women of all the major Jewish religious movements and who follow an Orthodox service, had had chairs and bottles thrown at them by extremist male worshippers (who consider that "the voice of a woman is lascivious") and one member of the group had been bitten by a female worshipper.

Similar women's prayer groups in several cities in the U.S. and Canada and at least one in Western Europe have been holding prayers in solidarity with the Women of the Wall.

## Moslem Furor Over IDF Desecration of the Koran

JEDDAH — The Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) called here yesterday for an international response to Israel's "arrogance" after reports that Israeli troops used pages from the Koran as toilet paper.

Amid mounting anger in the Moslem world, OIC Secretary General Hamid al-Gabid issued a strong protest against the "Israeli attacks on Islam as manifested by the use of pages from the Koran for shameful purposes."

In Kuwait, Moslem religious leaders called during Friday prayers for a jihad (holy war) against Israel because of the reports, witness said earlier Saturday.

The Israeli Army has acknowledged that some soldiers bivouacked in a school in the West Bank last month tore pages out of the Koran, Islam's holy book, to use as toilet paper.

But an army spokesman said "the soldiers did not know that they were using the Koran."

## 'Fatah Has Attacked Inside Israel'

Terrorist cells in the territories belonging to Yasser Arafat's Fatah wing of the PLO have carried out at least 10 terrorist operations inside Israel since the PLO chairman's landmark speech last December, security sources told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

The sources added that many of these operations were directed by operatives from outside Israel and the territories.

The sources said that since the speech to a special session of the UN General Assembly in Geneva, in which Arafat renounced terrorism, and until the end of last month, cells belonging to Fatah have carried out at least 70 terrorist operations, 10 of them inside the Green Line.

## Exodus City Rediscovered?

LONDON — "And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about 600,000 on foot that were men, beside children." (Exodus 12: 37).

At Kantara in Sinai, on the east side of the Suez Canal, a team of Egyptian archaeologists is believed to have rediscovered Rameses, the city from which Moses led the Exodus of the Israelites.

Led by a young Egyptian student, Mohammed Abdel Maksoud, the team from the Egyptian Department of Antiquities has uncovered the four-meter thick fortifications of a city 400 meters square, constructed on the ruins of an earlier Hyksos city.

Maksoud, who is studying for a doctorate at Lille University, has also unearthed burial remains, indications of a temple and palace, and traces of 12 grain storehouses — built some 3,300 years ago for Rameses I, the first ruler of the 19th Dynasty, by forced Israelite labour, according to the Bible.

Maksoud's team is returning to the site this winter and, according to Egyptian Historian Ahmed Osman, may well be able to uncover traces of Israelite habitation.

Osman, who has been living and working in London for the past 20 years, told *The Jerusalem Post* at the weekend that "all the indications suggest that the site at Kantara is the city of Rameses."

The discovery of Hyksos foundations beneath the fortifications ties in with contemporary papyri showing Rameses to have been constructed on the ruins of the Hyksos capital Avaris, he said.

And the location, he added, was precisely on the sole route from which the Egyptians, or the fleeing Israelites, could enter Palestine, Syria or Asia.

In past decades, about ten different sites have been suggested by archaeologists as the location of Rameses, with Kantar located some 50 kilometers southwest of Kantara, previously the most widely accepted site.

But although Austrian archaeologists, digging at Kantar since the 1960's have found a palace built by Rameses II as well as remains dating from Hyksos times, no signs of fortifications have ever been uncovered.

British Egyptologists have yet to accept that Kantara is indeed the site of Rameses, although they fully accept that Maksoud has discovered a large fortified city.

Their main reservation is that there is, as yet, no firm evidence of a Nile tributary reaching the city — as the Bible indicates it did.

But Osman says his research shows that the Nile did flow through the area, and an expert in ancient waterways is expected to join the dig when it resumes in the winter to try to confirm this.

## Yemen Jews

A desperate letter from a community of Jews in Yemen has arrived in Beersheba by a roundabout route. Signed by the heads of 44 families, the letter, like previous ones, was smuggled out and delivered to the Olei Teiman organization. The letter says: "We have been sold as slaves. Our lives are mired in mud and filth [and we are] the prey of murderers . . . You in Israel know of our sufferings and do nothing for us."

## The New Age Movement

(continued from page 12)

of one's own divinity is salvation and power." To these the New Agers add the fourth of Satan's primal lies: the denial of death (Gen. 3:1-5). At the heart of man's Fall and its subsequent distortion of all that God created is Worship of Self disguised as "knowledge" and "God-realization." No less than seven times in Isaiah 45, God declares, "*I am the Lord and THERE IS NONE ELSE.*"

These false teachings are all as old as man, and they have cropped up repeatedly throughout human history. However, in the fertile ground of modern society, with its doubts and skepticism, its fears concerning the future, and its overweening pride in the accomplishments of man, these "New Age" teachings have taken root as never before. Today, there are very serious attempts being made to bring the whole world together under the banner of unity, in a "New Age Utopia." The goals of the organizations working toward this goal often sound quite lofty and noble — after all, peace and unity are worthwhile aims, aren't they? — but if we take the Bible seriously, the dangers involved are real and very frightening.

The Bible exists to teach and to warn. The true Christian should be warned, and, being forewarned, should warn others of the dangerous consequences of ignoring the Almighty's ancient precepts. □

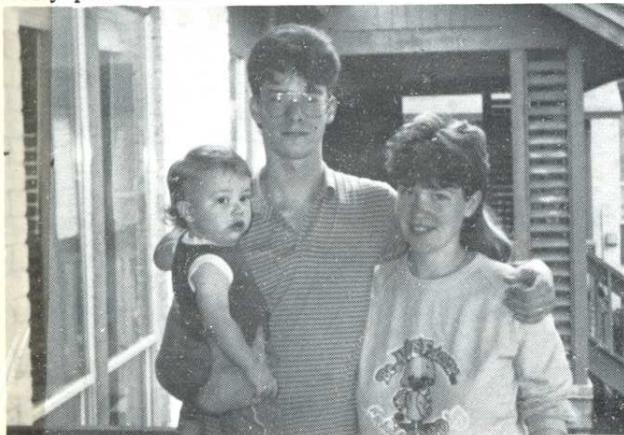
### Life in Israel

(continued from page 7)

how to say 'wings' and 'fly': He hesitated, and then put his arms out and moved his hands up and down, so I helped him with his words a little! He went on to say that he was born here, that his grandfather had come to Israel more than 100 years ago from Yemen, and that his grandfather was one of the first settlers. Our pleasant visit abruptly ended when I reached my destination, and hurried to wish him well, and to exchange 'Shaloms'. I think only in Jerusalem and Israel can you meet and share like this with people.

The Yemenite people lived as they always have lived, not knowing the changes that had come in other parts of the world. The Jewish male children were taught to read, but their literature and prayer books were all hand written. They waited for the prophecy, and they knew that they would remain in Yemen only until the time came for them to return to their own land. The God of Abraham said He would one day bring them back to the land of their fathers, on the wings of a great silver bird. These words spoken by an old Rabbi in the mountains of Yemen so many centuries ago became legend among them — they believed the prophecy. The airlift to Israel, was carried out by transport planes America had provided. They were old World War II Dakotas. The people were stationed at desert posts and taken to the airstrip by trucks. Then they were crowded into the bellies of the 'big iron birds'. The exodus from Yemen took place after Israel had become a nation. It was not just a leap into the sky and space over the Red Sea into the Promised Land, but it was a leap from the middle ages into modern times — the transport of a whole national community to a new environment.

The people from Yemen are special, and seem somehow different. They are gentle people — beautiful in spirit and without pretense. They are almost like angels to me. I remember how it was years ago in Yemen. They were isolated from the modern world and most didn't even know about planes. The airplanes they flew here in were very old, and cold inside, so they built a fire in the middle of one, a bon-fire that is, and they were warming themselves by it. Of course, someone came through and quickly put it out!



Some of you know my niece Denah, and may wonder where she is now. She is married, to Brett Vallery, and they are now living in America, in the State of Louisiana. Her husband is in the army, and is stationed there. They have two children: Jason Michael, and Melissa Ruth. The photo here shows Denah and Brett, with Jason; it was taken just before Melissa was born.

For those of you who don't know, Denah is the youngest child of my brother, Andy. She grew up here in Jerusalem, along with my youngest daughter, Rifca, and seems almost like my own child. My sister Mary's youngest child, Sandy, is also the same age — nineteen. Rifca and Sandy are still single, and are studying at present. Denah is also continuing with her studies. Since these three were sort of the babies of the family, it seems strange that they are all grown up now. It doesn't seem possible that time has passed so quickly!

The following two verses are taken from a song that a sister shared with us during last Sabbath's service. She said she had had a bad week, but was strengthened and lifted up when she remembered these words. She said it was a little song that they used to sing when she was a child.

*Run the straight race through God's good grace  
Lift up thine eyes and seek His face  
Life with its pathway before us lies  
Christ is the way and Christ the prize*

*Fret not nor fear — His arms are near  
He changes not and thou art dear  
Only believe and thou shalt see  
That Christ is all in all to thee*

There has been much trouble and turmoil lately, here in Israel, in Lebanon, and throughout the world. At the same time, though, we can see increased evidence of the Lord's leading and of the way that ancient prophecies are working toward fulfillment. Yes, He is in control of the situation, and all is working out according to the Great Plan. We can also be sure that He is watching over us.

*He Giveth to all life, and breath, and all things, and hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation. That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after Him, and find Him, though He be not far from every one of us. For in Him we live, and move, and have our being, as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also His offspring. (Acts 17: 25-28).*

May the Heavenly Father guide and protect you. Please keep us in your prayers, and pray especially for the peace of Jerusalem during these difficult times (Psalm 122: 6). We appreciate very much your letters, and are always glad to hear from you.

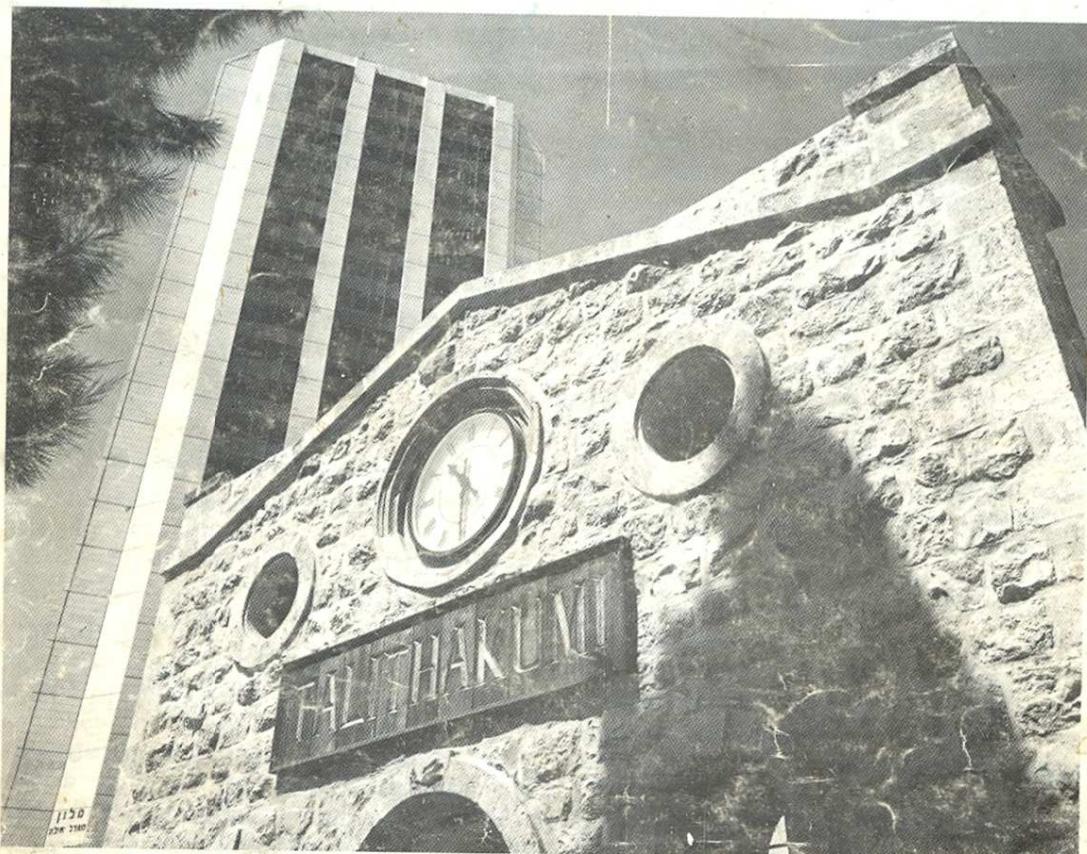
Your sister,  
Naomi Fauth.

### HELP SPREAD THE GOSPEL!

We are urgently in need of funds for printing tracts, booklets, books and other materials. 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 to this work will be put to good use. Please pray about it!

"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.



## "Talitha Kumi"

In 1868, a Christian girls' school was erected outside the Old City walls — one of the very first buildings built outside the wall's protection. Its architectural qualities were unique; designed by a renowned Jerusalem architect of the day, Konrad Scheck (1822-1901), it combined European academic styles with eastern motives. The school was named "Talitha Kumi," which in Aramaic means "Damsel, Arise" (Mark 5:4).

The structure remained a girls' school until the end of World War I, after which it was converted to offices. Then, after a time, it was abandoned and lay in ruins for years, until 1980, when it was demolished to make way for the large modern building that now occupies the space. A group that attempts to guard the city's old landmarks, at that time persuaded the municipality to save parts of the old building, in particular the wall and clock you see in these photos. Stones were numbered and moved, and later put back together, restoring this old landmark. Today, in the middle of downtown Jerusalem, it has become a place where people can meet, or sit around the platform and rest before continuing on their way.

You can walk through the open doorway and see, on the arch, carved in stone, a beautiful little dove flying with an olive branch. Above the doorway you can read the inscribed words of Jesus, "Talitha Kumi." High on the wall above the door is the huge original clock, restored to working order.

"Damsel, Arise" was taken from the Biblical story of the young girl Jesus raised from the dead. Remember that as the mourners "wept and wailed greatly," Jesus said, "*the damsel is not dead but sleepeth.*" He put outside those who immediately laughed and mocked at him, and they were not allowed to witness the great miracle which he then performed. Today, it seems another miracle that those same words He used then would be placed in the



center of modern Jerusalem, and in the Aramaic language that Jesus spoke.

And the biggest miracle of all is that Jerusalem is again favored of God and will this time blend into the eternal, never again to be forsaken. Surely "Talitha Kumi," the few words in our Bible remaining in Aramaic, goes beyond a story and miracle of past days. Surely today Jerusalem is also arising, and will continue to arise until the whole earth is filled with her glory. (Isaiah 62: 6-7).