



## “Where is the Lamb for the Burnt Offering?”

By GARY ALLEY

You might say that Israel seems to be in a tight spot right now. Israel's already tough Middle East neighborhood is only getting tougher.

Egypt, renown for its “cold peace” with Israel since the Camp David accords in 1978, appears to be developing into more of a foe than an ally. With the Egyptian people's popular overthrow of autocrat Hosni Mubarak this past February, the new “democratic” Egypt has allowed, or been powerless to stop, a spate of anti-Israel attacks. For example, a cooperative pipeline exporting and selling Egyptian natural gas to Israel has been sabotaged and disrupted six times since Mubarak's downfall. With the gas flow currently cut off, the Egyptian army, the country's de facto authority, is now renegotiating a new contract with Israel that will significantly increase prices.

In June, a dual Israeli-U.S. citizen and law student at Emory University, Ilan Grapel, was detained by Egyptian authorities and accused of being an Israeli spy. Grapel had been in Egypt on an Emory grant for a summer internship with Saint Andrew's Refugee Services, a non-governmental organization. Over four months later, Egypt still holds Grapel in an undisclosed location, while U.S. officials work for his release. The

Egyptian government is said to be planning his release in exchange for U.S. concessions.

August 18th witnessed a brazen terrorist attack by more than twenty Palestinian militants from Gaza who entered Israel via Egypt, shooting up Israeli vehicles and buses, leaving eight dead and many wounded. In response to Israel's pursuit of the militants across the border of Egypt that allegedly resulted in the death of six Egyptian police officers, thousands of Egyptians converged on the Israeli embassy in Cairo, pulling down the Israeli flag. September 9th saw a more overwhelming assault on the embassy, as the mob broke into the building, ransacking rooms and tossing Israeli documents out the windows without the deterrence of Egyptian forces. The Israeli ambassador and staff fled the country.

While Egypt has only had relations with Israel for just over three decades, Turkey on the other hand was the first Muslim nation to recognize the state of Israel in 1949. Since then, the Israeli-Turkish relationship has, for the most part, been consistently strong with both economic and military collaboration. Turkey had been the most popular vacation destination for Israelis during the past decade until the Gaza War at the end of 2008. Since that military incursion into Gaza to end the constant barrage of Hamas missiles

*Continued on the Other Side*



*From the Dura Europos Synagogue, 3rd cent AD. This is the earliest artistic impression of the Sacrifice or Binding of Isaac (Gen 22).*

### JCF STUDY TOURS

#### *Chorazin, A Seat of Moses*

Join Yoni Gerrish and the JCF staff on a tour in 2012 that investigates “The Backgrounds of Jesus' World”. See [JCFtours.com](http://JCFtours.com) for details

Chorazin is perched on a hill overlooking the Sea of Galilee more than 2 miles north of Capernaum. Like most Galilean villages, the harvest of olives and production of its oil was a major economic component of the hamlet's subsistence. The visible basalt remains of ancient Chorazin date from the 3rd and 4th centuries AD, though it was originally settled around the time of Jesus when he warned it—*“Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago!”* (Lk 10:13; Mt 11:21) Today, Chorazin's triple entrance synagogue is renown for having a great ornamental stone chair (*see right*) that most scholars recognize as a “seat of Moses”, or a place of authority, from where the sages would teach the Law of Moses (Mt 23:1-3).



## Where is the Lamb continued from the Front Page



upon Israeli towns, Turkey's diplomatic relations with Israel have hit an all-time low. Specifically, Turkey's Prime Minister Erdogan has become an outspoken critic of Israel's blockade of Gaza's Hamas terrorist government.

Since the Mavi Marmara incident on May 31st, 2010, when Israeli commandos intercepted a flotilla of six ships carrying 663 people from 37 nations trying to break the Israeli blockade of Gaza, Turkey's Erdogan has all but threatened to cut off all diplomatic ties. When the Israeli forces boarded the Mavi Marmara, they were attacked by an armed group of men that wounded seven Israeli soldiers. In the melee, the Israelis killed eight Turks plus another dual Turkish-U.S. citizen. A U.N. report recently published found that the blockade of Gaza was legal according to international law, but that excessive force was used by the Israelis when boarding the ship. Turkey continues to demand an official apology for the deaths, though Israel refuses. And so, last month, Turkey expelled Israel's ambassador and suspended its military agreements.

Meanwhile, Syria has been headline news this summer as its authoritarian ruler, Bashar Assad, has waged a war of attrition

against a popular uprising within his country. According to the U.N., more than 2,600 dissidents have been killed by Syrian forces since the protests began in March. Fearing a similar fate as Libya's Muammar Gaddafi, where international air power aided the rebel cause against the tyrant, Assad has recently threatened to shower Israel with rockets, both from Syria and from Hezbollah's massive stockpile (more than 40,000) in southern Lebanon, if international forces likewise strike Syria. Israel is all too familiar with Hezbollah's arsenal from which 4,000 rockets struck the north of the country during one month's time in the 2006 Lebanon War. This past spring U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said, "Syria and Iran are providing Hezbollah with so many rockets that they are at a point where they have more missiles than most governments in the world."

The growing antagonism of Israel's Middle East neighborhood, though, primarily spawns from Iran—Syria, Hezbollah, and Hamas' chief benefactor—and the Islamic Republic's undeterred desire to build a nuclear weapon. Despite international sanctions and other strategic actions, Iran is expected to build its first nuclear bomb no later than 2015. While Iran's controversial, acid-tongued president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, is well-known for constantly calling for Israel's destruction, the true power in Iran rests with their supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. At a recent

conference in support of Hamas and the Palestinian Intifada, Khamenei proclaimed the Jewish state a "cancerous tumor" that needed to be removed. "Our claim is freedom of Palestine, not part of Palestine. Any plan that partitions Palestine is totally rejected," Khamenei told the conference.

While this seemingly dark cloud hangs over the beginning of the Jewish New Year, it would be good to remind ourselves of the story of the "Sacrifice/Binding of Isaac" (Gen 22) which is read every Rosh haShanah in synagogues. In summary, God commands Abraham to sacrifice his son, Isaac, but just prior to killing him, the LORD provides a ram to be slaughtered instead of Isaac.

While Islamic tradition rewrote this story, replacing Isaac with Ishmael as the sacrificial son, and Christian tradition has focused on the typology of Isaac foreshadowing Jesus' all-atoning death, Jewish tradition still holds to the initial idea—"*I swear, declares the LORD, that because you have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me (Gen 22:16-18).*" Despite our sins and shortcomings, may we be reminded that through obedience God's grace is relentless, His promises unchanging, and His provision surprising.

## CHARITY REPORT: *Your Gifts Helped these Individuals and Families during August*

**Beit-El Infant Support.** JCF funds were used to purchase diapers, wet-wipes, and baby formula for young families within the Messianic Ethiopian Beit-El Congregation of Jerusalem. Some of the beneficiaries were:

**Isaac and Rachel** have recently given birth to a baby girl. While Rachel cares for their newborn, Isaac works as a translator.

**Thomas and Anna** are a young couple who recently gave birth to baby girl. Though Anna works cleaning homes, they still struggle financially.

**David and Alice** have a baby girl. Both parents work cleaning homes. However, David suffers from some medical conditions which limit his work capacity.

With the help of the Education Department of the Jerusalem Municipality and friends such as JCF, the **Preparatory Early Childhood Center** will begin classes for children of refugees and foreign workers in Israel desiring to fully enter into the Israeli school system. JCF has been privileged to contribute toward the children center's library collection.

The **Sherr's** are a Christian Lebanese family that fled to Israel during the Israeli army's withdrawal from Lebanon more than a decade ago. Because their family was associated with the South Lebanon Army (SLA) which sided with Israel during the Lebanese conflict (1982-2000), Gregory and Rina were forced to escape to Israel within hours notice. Apart from the trauma of moving from Lebanon to Israel during the war, the Sherr family has had its share of difficulties, including the father's continuous battle with cancer and the mother's difficult heart condition which have not allowed either of them to work. The children have worked hard to support their family: Gregory, the eldest, works on a poultry farm; Jillian, who is 21 years old, has been working at odd jobs while attempting to complete her degree in nursing; and Julia, who is 19, has been working at a hotel. Julia's dream is to study criminology at the university. JCF has helped her begin her studies.

JCF also bought new school bags and supplies for an impoverished Palestinian Christian family with four young children living in predominately Muslim Jericho. In the past, JCF has contributed towards their children attending a Christian school.

I wish to support the ministry of Jerusalem Cornerstone Foundation for the following:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Israel Relief (IR)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Children's Fund (CF)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Educational Fund (EF)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Biblical Language Center (BLC)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Staff- specific name optional: \_\_\_\_\_



Your gifts are tax deductible in the U.S. Make checks payable to: Jerusalem Cornerstone Foundation (JCF). Credit cards are accepted through our website.

Jerusalem Cornerstone Foundation: P.O. Box 54351 Tulsa, OK. 74155  
info@jerusalemcornerstone.org www.jerusalemcornerstone.org (918)-622-9573

## OUR PROGRAMS

**Biblical Language Center (BLC)** teaches intensive biblical Greek and Hebrew courses using a unique immersion method that makes learning fun, effective, and for everyone.

**Biblical Study Tours (BST)** brings the Bible to life through in-depth thematic trips that are customized to suit the specific needs of groups for any size and age.

**Israel Relief (IR)** provides financial assistance for families and individuals with urgent needs from all areas of the country. Ongoing funds are needed for food and clothing vouchers, housewares, emergency medical, dental, and general aid.

**Educational Fund (EF)** assists a number of needy students and individuals hoping to obtain degrees and skills that will enable them to rise above their societal limitations.

**Children's Fund (CF)** helps children in orphanages, post-orphanage situations, and kids handicapped by political and social conflicts. Ongoing funds are needed for school supplies, holiday gifts, and general aid.

## OUR STAFF

Charles M. Kopp, *Chairman*  
chuck@jerusalemcornerstone.org

Jon (Yoni) Gerrish, *Israel and BST Director*  
yoni@jerusalemcornerstone.org

Larry J. Ehrlich, *U.S. Director*  
larry@jerusalemcornerstone.org

Mary Ehrlich, *U.S. Administrator*  
mary@jerusalemcornerstone.org

Eva Kopp, *Charity and Operations Director*  
eva@jerusalemcornerstone.org

Sharona Pong, *Financial Manager*  
sharona@jerusalemcornerstone.org

Gary Alley, *Communications*  
gary@jerusalemcornerstone.org



*Eva Kopp is JCF's new Director of Charity and Operations. Eva has been a past contributor to JCF newsletters and has lived in Jerusalem for most of her life. She is married to Danny Kopp and they have two sons, Rafi (3) and Michel (6 months). Recently, she and her husband spent five years in Washington D.C., where Danny was the director of public affairs for the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction while Eva served as a treasury analyst for the AARP.*

## PRAYER REQUESTS and PRAISE REPORTS

*Dania Minor and family have moved to Nairobi, Kenya. During the move, their shipping container was plundered of many of their new, personal belongings. Before they discovered the theft, the Kenyan authorities also charged them ten times the regular price to receive their container.*

*"A Line in the Sand"—on November 11th (11-11-11) believers will gather at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA to seek the Lord together. That evening, ministry workers from Israel and the Middle East will gather on stage in order to pray for America, while the assembled throng will then pray a blessing for their work overseas. Randall and Margret Buth will be attending. The next day, the Buths will be at an "open house" in the Hollywood area for many Israel ministries, including JCF. For more info: [www.rosebowlgathering.info](http://www.rosebowlgathering.info)*

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
TULSA, OK  
PERMIT NO. 1957

Jerusalem Cornerstone Foundation

October 2011



JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Your Name:

Email:

Mailing Address:

WHO WE ARE  
JERUSALEM  
CORNERSTONE  
FOUNDATION

is a Christian non-profit organization based in Jerusalem, Israel that reaches out with two arms—biblical education for Christians and charitable contributions for residents of Israel who are struggling and marginalized.

Jerusalem Cornerstone Foundation:

P.O. Box 54351,

Tulsa, OK 74155

info@jerusalemcornerstone.org (918)-622-9573

Please write and let us hear from you.

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please let us know.



Starting in 2011, JCF will begin sending newsletters by email. Sign up at [www.jerusalemcornerstone.org](http://www.jerusalemcornerstone.org).