# A Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

#### Volume 5, Number 3

#### March 2007

As always, special thanks go out to Zola Levitt Ministries / To The Jew First Ministry for their ongoing funding contributions to B'rit Hadashah Ministries, helping to make these mission trips to Israel possible.

s Paul and I continued our witnessing ministry along Ben Yehudah Street and its thoroughfares, I spotted a Kabbalah bookstore. Kabbalahism is a mystical/occult sect of Judaism that developed among several rabbis in the Middle Ages. The Kabbalah basically stresses that God is a series of ten creative emanations that correspond to man's ten levels of consciousness. The Kabbalah



#### Todd Baker

teaches that Scripture can only be understood by a select few who can decipher its esoteric meaning through the numerical values assigned to the Hebrew letters of the Jewish Bible. This belief system is part of the pervasive New Age influence among many young Jewish people in Israel. The one outstanding heresy of this medieval movement is that God is not so much a Person as He is creation itself and the mind of creation. Those who adhere to the teachings of Kabbalah therefore believe that God is not a person but is more a state of perfect consciousness that a person can acquire by following the complex system of the Kabbalah. Thus the problem for man, as this system goes on to teach, is ignorance, and the solution to that problem comes by learning the wisdom the Kabbalah Masters provide.

The sales representative at the bookstore greeted us with a similar presentation. Her name was Yael. Paul and I gently, but firmly, proposed that the God of Israel has spoken clearly with a universal simplicity through Moses, the Prophets, and finally and fully through His Son and Messiah of Israel—Yeshua of Nazareth who is the eternal God revealed in human flesh. His is the exact expression of the mind and character of God (Hebrews 1:3). We added that anything or anyone making



claims about having special knowledge of the divine that omits or removes the superiority of Jesus in this matter is counterfeit, incomplete, and deceptive. Doing such a thing is turning back to the inferior elements of the fallen world ruled by the Evil One and his hosts of demonic spirits (Colossians 2:20-23) while robbing Jesus of His rightful place as the

The Kabbalah Centre on Ben Yehudah St.

only true Savior and Messiah (John 10:1). Paul and I further shared with Yael that what the Jewish Scriptures teach about the problem and solution for man is far more different and more in keeping with reality and history than the mystical and subjective ambiguities of the Kabbalah. The problem of man is sin, not lack of knowledge or ignorance. It is sin that has separated a Holy God from sinful humanity. Sin is defined as any act or thought that violates the moral law God has established as revealed through Holy Writ. The solution to this sin problem required by God is a blood atoning sacrifice that is both innocent and righteous—enter the Messiah.

This truth of redemption, we instructed Yael, was prefigured in the animal sacrifices of the Old Covenant documented and detailed in the Torah (particularly in the book of Leviticus). The Messiah came as the final, once-for-all perfect sacrifice for our sins, to which the Old Covenant animal sacrifices pointed. By accepting the

DEBTORS OF NESSIAH OF NESSIAH Part TO ISRAEL

Romans 15:27 A continuation of Todd's memoirs from the March 2006 mission trip to Israel

Messiah's blood atoning sacrifice, sinners, both Jew and Gentile, are forgiven and cleansed from moral guilt and reconciled to a forgiving God.

Yael agreed in principle that evil was a problem but said the Kabbalah provides the way by which we can become like God through the detailed steps of study and devotion to the Kabbalah's complex prescription for how a person can attain divine consciousness. Yael expressed her belief that the Messiah was more a concept and idea than a literal person. Such a comment allowed Paul and me to show her some of the Messianic prophecies in the Tenach (Old Testament) made by the Ha Naviim (Hebrew phrase for "the Prophets") which clearly speak about the Messiah being a literal flesh and blood person who would be born in a certain place (Bethlehem according to Micah 5:1-2), come at a certain point in time (before the second Temple is destroyed according to Daniel 9:26-27), who would die for our sins and conquer death by physically rising from the dead (according to Psalm 16:10 and Hosea 6:1-2).

These very prophecies were fulfilled in the life of Yeshua. He rose so that by Ruach Hakodesh (the Holy Spirit) He can live in us and then we can truly reflect what God is like. The Scriptures declare mankind is made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27) but we are not God, for no man can create something from nothing, be omnipotent, omnipresent, and morally perfect in this life. Sin occurred in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve wanted to be God instead of being like God at the instigation of Satan speaking through the serpent (see Genesis 3:1-7). Paul and I pointed to a book in the shop entitled *Becoming Like God: Kabbalab and Our Ultimate Destiny* to use as an example of perpetuating the original sin and satanic lie that claims man can become like God apart from Yeshua the Messiah in contradiction to the infallible revelation of Him through the Holy Scriptures.

Yael patiently listened and took all this in and told us that she would read the Hebrew New Testament we gave her. May the Lord now open her eyes to see that the magnificent portrait of the Messiah in the face of Jesus of Nazareth far outshines the dim and benighted teachings of the convoluted Kabbalah.  $\Rightarrow$ 

BY STUART ARDEN Israeli Correspondent



# Maculate Mahmoud

Stuart Arden's shocking and revealing look at the real Mahmoud Abbas, the current President of the Palestinian Authority, shows at once that he is neither "a man of peace" toward Israel or a 'moderate' Arab leader as the Bush administration erroneously portrays him. Middle East history clearly says otherwise. Abbas' real biography reveals that he is an arch terrorist, a long time murdering anti-Semite, and an inveterate enemy of Israel. As such, he should be considered an out and out enemy to be fought and defeated in this war on terror. To dress him up in an expensive suit to make him appear to be a civilized man who wants peace with Israel is one of the greatest sell jobs and shams of the United States government. That said, the divine curse of Genesis 12:1-3 still applies to Abbas and those of his insidious ilk—Todd.

Anyone looking at Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) in a suit and tie could easily assume that he's a university professor, a judge without his black robe, the kindly old doctor who has always attended to us, or at the least, everyone's favorite uncle or grandfather. However, if we take heed of his pronouncements and his actions, it becomes clear that regardless of his civilized and gentlemanly appearance, he's a terrorist; differing in appearance only, from those in Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and the Al Aksa Martyrs Brigade (which are all on the U.S. State



Abbas

Department's list of terrorist organizations), or the Popular Resistance Committees, the Tanzim or any of the other terrorist organizations which he supports either directly or indirectly.

On August 26, 2003, President George W. Bush addressed the 85<sup>th</sup> American Legion National Convention at the St. Louis Convention Center and said, "We've sent a message that is understood throughout the world: if you harbor a terrorist, if you support a terrorist, if you feed a terrorist, you're just as guilty as the terrorists . . . ." As this essay will attempt to show, by that definition alone, Mahmoud Abbas is a terrorist.

In 1957, Mahmoud Abbas was one of the founders of *Fatah*, along with a little-known Egyptian student named Yasser Arafat. After the Arab League formed the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1964, and for many years thereafter, *Fatah* was the largest and most dominant group in the PLO. Following Arafat's death (Mohammed Abdel-Raouf Arafat al-Qudwa al-Husseini, supposedly a relative of the notorious Mufti of Jerusalem, Haji Amin al-Husseini) on November 11, 2004, Abbas pledged to continue Arafat's policies. I leave it to you to draw your own conclusions as to what had been Arafat's policies.

In the 1972 massacre of eleven Israeli athletes (and one German policeman) at the Munich Olympic Games, Mahmoud Abbas was the paymaster! In his 2002 autobiography, <u>Memoirs of a Palestinian Terrorist</u>, Mohammed Daoud Oudeh wrote, "... though he didn't know what the money was being spent for, longtime Fatah

official Mahmoud Abbas, aka, Abu Mazen, was responsible for the financing of the Munich attack." My, my, such a benign and benevolent gesture on the part of Abu Mazen, arranging funds for something he was completely unaware of; well, at any rate, I'm sure he hadn't assumed it was for a tea and crumpets party!

In 1982, Abbas wrote his doctoral dissertation for the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, located in Moscow, a work later published as <u>The Other Side: The Secret Relationship Between</u> <u>Naziism and Zionism</u>. While it is true that there had been high level secret talks between Zionist leaders and Nazi officials in an attempt to save Jewish lives, that was not the gist of Abbas' dissertation. Abbas claimed that there were no gas chambers and minimized the number of Jews that had been murdered in the Holocaust, something which is a criminal offense in some European countries today. His recanting, a decade later, rings hollow when one considers his activities listed below.

On June 9, 2003, when Abbas was Palestinian Prime Minister, he stated that he would not use force against "militants" (sic; they're terrorists and listed as such by the U.S. State Department!) under any circumstances. Please relate this statement to President's Bush's statement at the American Legion Convention, and bear in mind that the Oslo Accords of August 20, 1993, (the "Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements") stated explicitly that terrorism and incitement were to be ended, yet they are rampant and unceasing under Abbas' leadership.

During a visit to Saudi Arabia on December 15, 2004, Abbas clarified a comment that he had made previously (that violence against Israel is counterproductive) by saying, "All I meant is that we are in a phase that does not necessitate arms ....." That <u>phase</u> means that violence and terrorism will be turned on and off as it suits the so-called Palestinians, but sitting at a conference table AFTER THEY HAVE OFFICIALLY ENDED TERRORISM simply doesn't seem to be a part of their agenda.

In an ABC interview on May 29, 2005, Abbas said that the era of suicide bombings MAY be over. However, when questioned further he said that if there wasn't progress toward a peace agreement, "despair and loss of hope will come back and a return to the old ideas" will occur. Stated in plain English, what Abbas was saying is that if the so-called Palestinians don't get what they want, the way they want it (without ending terrorism and disbanding terrorist militias!), the suicide bombings and all other terrorism will continue.

On January 4, 2005, during the election campaign for chairmanship of the PA, the "sanitized" name of the PLO, Abbas referred to Israel as "the Zionist enemy." Spare me the simplistic apologetic that this was merely "electioneering rhetoric!" Also, on January 10, 2005, in his victory speech, speaking before a crowd that was chanting "a million shahids," Abbas said, "I present this victory to the soul of Yasser Arafat [the unrepentant terrorist *par excellance*] and present it to our people, to our martyrs [the *shahids*] and to 11,000 prisoners." Those "prisoners" are mostly "failed *shahids*," terrorists who were apprehended before they could commit their dastardly deeds!

#### Maculate Mahmoud... Continued from page 2

The Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center reported that on October 23, 2005, a million dollars (an Iranian grant) was distributed to families of *shahids.* "*Shahid*" means "martyr", but not in the commonly understood manner of one who is killed while upholding his beliefs; rather, in Palestinian parlance, it is one who has committed suicide while taking the lives of as many innocent Jewish civilians as possible. The ceremony was under the sponsorship of Mahmoud Abbas.

Under Mahmoud Abbas' leadership there has been an unceasing flow of suicide bombers and terrorist attacks on civilians, but Abbas steadfastly refuses any attempt at stopping this death-dealing behavior. In



fact, the Palestinian Authority continually honors and memorializes suicide bombers and even condones steps to increase their ranks and continue their activities. As Palestine Media Watch reported on April 25, 2006, a special program for "Palestine Children's Day" on PA television featured a young girl reciting a poem about the joys of being a suicide bomber, containing the following: "Our death is like life .... I will walk 1000 miles even if I die... as a Martyr." There are three significant things related to this event:

1) What sort of a society or people or parents sends out its own children to be killed; 2) The traditional concept of a "martyr" was someone who died as an individual fighting for his/her cause, not someone who attempted to murder as many civilians as possible;

#### and most importantly

3) Sitting in the front row of the audience was Mahmoud Abbas along with other high-ranking PA members, all of whom applauded what they had just heard.

For years I have remonstrated with gullible "westerners," telling them to stop being "impressed" with the duplicitous lies that Mahmoud Abbas (and others in the [so-called] Palestinian leadership) purveys in English, and once again Abbas has been accommodating in his native language. As Palestinian Media Watch reported on May 25, 2006, Abbas referred to incarcerated terrorists as "our heroes."

On May 31, 2006, DEBKA*file* reported that Mahmoud Abbas had appointed Mahmoud Dimra [Abu Awad] "... number

5 on the Shin Bet's [Israel's Security Service] list of most wanted terrorists from the 2000-2005 Palestinian terror war against Israel," as head of Force 17, the presidential protection force, which also engages in terrorist activities. Dimra served as Yasser Arafat's undercover coordinator for the suicide campaign waged by the Fatah-al Aksa Martyrs Brigade [listed on the U.S. State Department's list of foreign terrorist organizations] and which is still operating, under the aegis of the Fatah leader [you guessed it!] Mahmoud Abbas." To further exacerbate the situation, 200 rifles were turned over to Awad's auspices, weapons ostensibly meant for Abbas' personal protection force, but now in the hands of vicious terrorists.

Khaled Abu Toameh, an Arab reporter for <u>The Jerusalem Post</u>, reported on the formation of a women's suicide bomber group in July 2006: "A woman who identified herself as Um al-Abed told reporters in Gaza City .... [that about 100 women had signed up]. She claimed that she was a spokeswoman for the Aksa Martyrs Brigades, the armed wing of *Fatah*." *Fatah* is the political party of Mahmoud Abbas!

Ever since the late Summer of 2006, there has been talk of forming a "Palestinian" (sic) "national unity government" (of Hamas and Fatah). The reason for this is the current ostracism of the Palestinian Authority due to the Hamas members in its midst (democraticallyelected I might add!), elected officials who make no secret nor use euphemistic language when advocating the destruction of Israel. How should one categorize Mahmoud Abbas when he attempts to form a coalition government with known (and U.S. State Department-identified) terrorists?! Then, when this coalition apparently materializes, Abbas gets invited to the White House by President Bush bear in mind that Mahmoud Abbas had become persona non grata ever since Hamas was voted into the PA legislature, yet when he forms a coalition with this very same Hamas, he receives a White House invitation! Not only that, during their meeting on September 20, 2006, President Bush called Abbas "a man of peace." I think this President Bush should read the words of the other President Bush, the one who spoke at the American Legion National Convention, on August 26, 2003!!!

The day after his meeting with President Bush, Mahmoud Abbas spoke at the UN (September 21) and said that the proposed ("Palestinian") unity government would "recognize" Israel. Within hours, PA Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh (of *Hamas*) contradicted Abbas' statement, and said that *Hamas* would NOT recognize Israel. "Bless" *Hamas*, which is worthy of the soonto-be-established "Ahmadinejad Prize for Honesty in Advertising," (Ahmadinejad: "As the Imam [Khomeini] said, Israel must be wiped off the map."). Haniyeh's "refreshing honesty" is in direct contrast to Abbas' "double speak."

Mahmoud Abbas has no validity talking about peace at the same time that he aids, promotes, and supports terrorism, and it boggles the mind why the United States



keeps propping this man up and supporting him when his terrorist inclinations are out there for all to see, and the same goes for Israel's leftistoriented Prime Minister, Ehud

Olmert (who calls Abbas "a legitimate partner for peace"). Calling Abbas a pragmatist or a moderate or "a man of peace" is the height of ridiculousness when one considers how his actions fly in the face of President George W. Bush's words: "if you harbor a terrorist, if you support a terrorist, if you feed a terrorist, you're just as guilty as the terrorists . . . . " and of course, Israel which may have to pay the price for Abbas' duplicity should be the one most wary of him.

At least twice during the captivity of an Israeli soldier who had been kidnapped by *Hamas* on June 25, 2006, Mahmoud Abbas said that he would facilitate the return of Pfc.Gilad Shalit, but of course nothing was done. I believe this falls under the category

of "stroking," and without descending to the level of obscenity. I will let (figurative) definition 6a of "stroke" in <u>Webster's</u> Seventh New <u>Collegiate</u> <u>Dictionary</u> suffice: "one of a series of propelling beats or



Pfc. Gilad Shalit, kidnapped Israeli soldier

movements against a resisting medium." Momentary gratification, but nothing more!

In early October 2006, Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice met with Mahmoud Abbas, and at a press conference on October 3, she said "We have great admiration for you and your leadership," and "You have the strong support of the U.S. and a personal commitment from President George Bush and I." However,

Continued on page 4





#### Question:

Doesn't the word "sleep" used in the New Testament teach that both the body and soul are unconscious in the grave after death until the resurrection?



Question:

Was the Apostle Paul married, divorced, widowed, or single?

#### Answer:

The word "sleep" is a metaphor in the New Testament used to describe the appearance and posture of the body at death, not the soul which is conscious after death. Revelation 6:9 also talks about the disembodied souls of the Tribulation saints who were slain on the earth and await the final judgment of God against those who killed them. It clearly says their souls are alive and with God prior to the first resurrection, thus they would have to be alive after the death of the physical body. Jesus also said to the thief on the cross, "Today you will be with Me in paradise" in Luke 23:43. Obviously Jesus meant here that their souls would meet in heaven after the death of the body occurred several hours later. Furthermore, the clear teaching of Paul in 2 Corinthians 5:8-9 clearly means that while in the body we are absent from the immediate presence of Christ in heaven. But the moment we are absent from the body, we will be in the physical presence of Christ in heaven. These verses would be utterly nonsensical if the pagan doctrine of soul sleep applied to the conscious individual as well.

#### Answer:

Paul was probably not married because there is no mention of a wife and family that he had in the New Testament. This is further underscored when Paul said he could have married a believing wife to take along in the ministry as Cephas and the other Apostles did. This clearly implies that Paul could have married in the Lord had he chosen to do so, but chose to remain unmarried that he may serve the Lord without domestic distractions (see 1 Corinthians 7:7, 32; 9:4-5).

Maculate Mahmoud... Continued from page 3 as Palestine Media Watch later showed, on that very same date (October 3), in an interview in Arabic, which was aired on both Al Arabiya (Dubai), and Palestinian Television, Abbas said, "It is not required of Hamas, or of Fatah [his own political party!], or of the Popular Front to recognize Israel." One has to wonder what it is that the U.S. administration "admires," what they want to "support," and to what they are offering a "commitment!"

Let's face it, Mahmoud Abbas is a "dummy!" No, not stupid, after all he has a doctorate from that paragon of intellectual eminence, People's Friendship University in Moscow, but a "dummy" according to the definitions in the aforesaid Webster's dictionary: "1a) having the appearance of being real but lacking capacity to function; 1b) existing in name only; 2) apparently acting for oneself while really acting for or at the direction of another." The "another" is of course those seeking Israel's destruction.

Mark Twain said "Clothes make the man," but in the fable called "The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing," Aesop said, "Appearances are deceptive;" however, I am reminded of a (paraphrased) sentence said by dozens of "Indians" in Hollywood westerns: <u>Me thinks "Palestinian" man</u> <u>speak with forked tongue</u>!

With the above thoughts in mind, I have decided to bestow awards on both the American administration and on Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen)." The Jabberwocky Award" (inspired by Lewis Carroll's nonsensical poem in <u>Alice in Wonderland</u>) goes to the American administration, and Mahmoud Abbas is accorded the "Doublespeak Award" (inspired by George Orwell's "<u>Animal Farm</u>.").  $\Leftrightarrow \Leftrightarrow$ 

#### Don't Forget about Todd's Book Available for Purchase on our Website



# B'rit Hadashah Ministries

# $extsf{def}$ partner With Us $ilde{a}$

This is a humble but effective ministry whose goal is to bring the gospel of Yeshua to Israel and to raise awareness in America about God's preeminent call to take the Gospel to the Jews - Romans 1:16.

Because of the support of our faithful partners, there is a young Jewish woman attending a university in Jerusalem who now has a B'rit Hadashah (New Testament in Hebrew), and IDF soldiers in Haifa who can read that the Messiah Yeshua has come to bring hope and peace to their souls. Your donations have changed the life of an Arab shop keeper in Tiberias who has accepted Yeshua as his Messiah and Savior.

Please consider (if you have not already done so) becoming a monthly partner. As you can read for yourself in the newsletter articles, these worthwhile donations are directly impacting individual lives in Israel. Isn't that what Yeshua's earthly ministry was about?

We thank you deeply for your support, whether you are able to give monthly or a onetime donation. It all goes a long way in helping us achieve God's purpose and plan for this outreach ministry.

Make checks and money orders payable to: B'rit Hadashah Ministries PO Box 796127 Dallas, TX 75379-6127

You can also make your donation online at: www.Brit-Hadashah.org

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\* Donations are tax deductible in the U.S. as you give to this 501(c)(3) Non-profit ministry. \* **thank you for your support** 

We also accept:

## MARCH 2007 MISSION TRIP TO ISRAEL

#### Missionary Prayer List

Here is a suggested list from Scripture to use when praying for our missions.

- ☆ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6).
- Pray that we have the Father's wisdom and guidance in everything we do (Psalm 32:8; 48:14; Colossians 4:5).
- Pray for witnessing opportunities (John 4:35; Luke 10:2; Acts 1:8).
- Pray that God will open the hearts of those who will hear (Psalm 110:3; Acts 16:14).
- Pray that God will give us the boldness to proclaim the Gospel to the Jew first and also the Gentile (Acts 4:31; Romans 1:16; Ephesians 6:19).
- Pray for spiritual unity and agreement among us (Psalm 133:1).
- Pray for our health, protection, safety, and God's protection from the hand of the enemy, both seen and unseen (Psalm 91: Matthew 6:13).
- Pray for spiritual fruit that will last (John 15:7-8; Galatians 5:22-23).
- Pray for favor among the Chosen People as we share the Gospel with them (Proverbs 12:2).
- Pray that the Chosen People will come to faith in Messiah (Christ) Jesus (Romans 10:1; Matthew 15-16; Mark 8:27-29, 14:61-62; Luke 9:18-20; John 4:25-26).

### Be a Part of our 2007 Outreach to Israel

Did you know that the Israeli people do not have easy access to the New Testament (B'rit Hadashah)? Their bookstores usually do not carry it, and even some universities offer courses on Yeshua but only provide exerpts from the B'rit Hadashah.

Your donations during the months of January, February, and March can put the Gospel directly into the hands of Jewish people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to read about their Messiah. Throughout the year, your donations help make these trips possible. But during these months, our focus is on funding the gift of scripture and other materials that we give out as the Holy Spirit leads us.

We are excited about what God is doing through these mission trips. And it's equally as exciting to know that our partners will be blessed through their support which makes all of this happen. Genesis 12:3 speaks specifically of those who bless His people, Israel:

"I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

What a way to bless the Jewish people, by giving them the words of life. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

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A Monthly Newsletter of B'rit Hadashah Ministries

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Now That's a Good Question!	Maculate Mahmoud 2	(Romans 15:27) 1	In This Issue	information about our ministry, or to be added to our subscription list, you may contact []lisa at: elisar@cebridge.net.
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### The Importance of Israel to the Church

In this day, it is essential for Christians to be educated about our Jewish roots and God's plan for Israel as it directly impacts the future of all Believers. To have Todd speak to your church, organization, or Sunday School class about this and other important topics affecting Christians today, please contact Teresa Brown at (940) 367-7939 or email BHMengagements@gmail.com.

The following are just a few of the topics that Todd teaches on:

Eye on Israel - volatile current events in the Holy Land and its relevance to prophecy;

Israel and Prophecy - the importance of knowing and understanding the relationship of Israel to the Church;

Israel's Right to the Land - where and what is Palestine, and do Arabs have claims to the land?;

Seven Reasons the Gospel must go to the Jews - is Jewish evangelism Biblical, and why is it so largely ignored?;

Invite Todd to Speak to Your Group

**†** 

Messengers of Messiah to Israel - based on Dr. Baker's recently released book that testifies to what God is doing in the hearts of the Israelis, both Jew and Arab;

The Dead Sea Scrolls - exploring the authenticity and reliability of Scripture.