

When the modern State of Israel was founded in 1948, the reborn nation adopted the menorah as its national emblem. One of Judaism's oldest symbols, the menorah dates back to the book of Exodus, when God told Moses, "You shall also make a lampstand of pure gold. You shall make seven lamps for it, and they shall arrange its lamps so that they give light in front of it" (25:31, 37). The menorah on the cover, built by British-Jewish sculptor Benno Elkan, is made of bronze and stands over 16 feet tall. It resides in front of Israel's Knesset building in Jerusalem, a gift from members of the British Parliament on April 15, 1956.

(Moti Meiri/iStockphoto)

IN THIS ISSUE



Will Someone Say, 'Holy War'?

by *Elwood McQuaid*10

A cartoon in Denmark. A film in Amsterdam. An opinion in the Netherlands. They all spark the same type of violence. Why? By now, the answer should be obvious.



The New Anti-Semitism

by *James A. Showers*14

Some people claim they don't dislike Jewish people, they just dislike Israel. But when you dig deeper, you uncover a very disturbing theology.



Getting to Know the World Council of Churches

by *Charles E. McCracken*20

If you think you know what the WCC is all about, it may be time to take another look. What you see may surprise you.



Molding the Next Generation of Anti-Semites

by *Steve Herzig*24

So you've sent your children to college to get an education. They'll certainly get one, but they may also emerge more pro-Palestinian than they were before. Here's why.



Israel's Legal Right to Its Land

by *Thomas Ice*.....28

These days there's lots of talk about Palestinian "rights." But Israel has rights too—legal ones. And it has a legitimate right to its land for many reasons.

ALSO FEATURING

Inside View 4

Eye on the Middle East 5

Editorial 6

Wingate the Zionist 8

Save the Date! 12

They Cry in Silence 13

The WCC: No Friend to Israel 18

A More Perfect Union 19

John Henry Patterson 23

Where to Find Good Information Online 26

Ariel and Israel Advocacy 27

The Seven Keys to History
Key 5: Christ Crucified 32

Jesus the 'Palestinian' 35

10 Errors of Christian Palestinianism 35

The Book of Hebrews 36

The Foundations of Faith 38

Israel in the News 40

Zvi 42

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Israel My Glory (ISSN 8755-402X) is published bimonthly for \$19.95 per year by The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry, Inc., 1179 Almonesson Road, Deptford Township, Westville, New Jersey 08093. Periodicals postage paid at Westville, NJ, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Israel My Glory, P.O. Box 908, Bellmawr, NJ 08099-0908.