

“Write therefore the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall take place after these things” - Revelation 1:19

NEW DISCOVERIES AT QUMRAN

A Special Report by Randall Price

Fourteen volunteers from four countries took part in the 2004 excavation on the Qumran plateau, site of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Many exciting discoveries were made and a press conference held on August 16-17 carried news of the finds around the world (see photos, bottom last page). I again served as the director of excavations with JMI, an Israel-based non-profit that initiated the project in the 1990's. This year's dig expanded that of the 2002 season, which uncovered a cooking installation. To our surprise we discovered a human-engineered complex *beneath* the floor of the cooking installation (seen with the pottery discovered in the photo below left). This "repository" is similar in form to the Qumran caves where Dead Sea Scrolls were found and has a winding passageway that connects a storage area with a carved entrance to a smaller area with a rounded pit. It appears to have once been reached from above by steps cut in the marl formation (removed in the course of excavation). A large piece of a store jar was discovered inside the rounded pit indicating that the complex was used to store items in jars, perhaps even Dead Sea Scrolls. Covering the upper entrance to the repository was a large shaped stone (under the dig volunteer with brush in photo below to the right) indicating that the site was being concealed or protected.



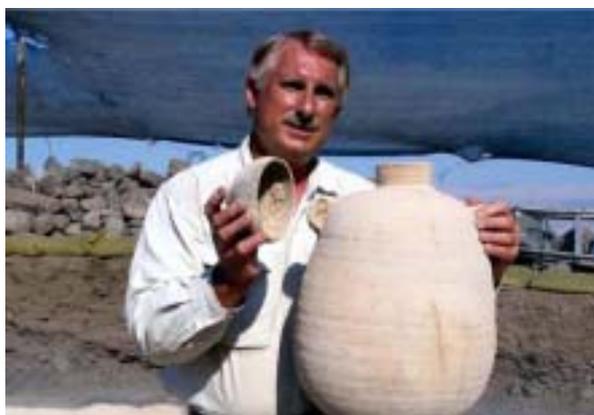
Cooking installation (2002) with (2004) repository beneath



Volunteer Rick Schueler and stone covering

North of the repository store jars were found of a type in which scrolls had been stored in the nearby caves. One of these store jars was discovered intact and in perfect condition (see photos below). Such finds are extremely rare. It was covered by a bowl lid and sealed to preserve its contents. Once opened the contents, which we suspect to have been date honey, was sent to an Israeli laboratory for analysis. The jar itself can be dated to pre-31 B.C./B.C.E., the earliest period of the Qumran sect before a powerful earthquake damaged many of the community's buildings.

Right: Dr. Price uncovering pre-31 B.C./B.C.E. Qumran store jar



Far Right: Dr. Price displays store jar after unsealing its bowl lid



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Dear Friends of the World of the Bible,

We at World of the Bible Ministries wish you a very blessed Christmas and New Year! As we look back on this year we count each of you who have stood with us as dear partners in ministry and thank the Lord for your service for His glory.

My summer with World of the Bible Ministries was filled with guiding our annual study tour to Israel and directing the Qumran Plateau archaeological excavation. My special report on this exciting and successive archaeological dig accompanies this issue of our newsletter. Our next study tour to Israel will be May 28-June 8, 2005. We will also offer an extension to Jordan, seeing such sites as Petra, Jerash, Mt. Nebo, Madaba, and the Copper Scroll in Amman. As our space is limited, may I encourage you now to make your reservation to join us for this exciting tour. Call our toll free number at (866) 604-7322 to request a free brochure.

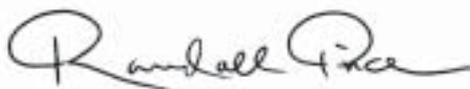
This issue we have two new book titles to offer you! *My Charts on Bible Prophecy* (Zondervan Publishers) and *The Battle for the Last Days Temple* (Harvest House Publishers) have recently been released and focus respectively on God's program of prophecy and current events that are setting the stage for the fulfillment of the prophetic program for Israel. Another book, *Searching for the Ark of the Covenant*, will be available soon. In addition, our video titles on biblical archaeology and biblical prophecy have now been digitally re-mastered and are available in DVD. As an introduction to this new format we are offering a special of \$5 off the price of BOTH the DVD's and our videos of these select titles! Don't miss this opportunity to save and to share these visual adventures with friends and your church.

On a personal note may I announce that my wife Beverlee and I are now the proud grandparents of Ethan (Hebrew "strong") Andrew (Greek "man") Ream, born June 5 to our daughter Elisabeth and son-in-law Eric who are this year completing the Th.M. degree at Dallas Seminary and preparing for the mission field. In addition, on September 4 our daughter Eleisha (born in Jerusalem) was wed to Pavel Tabares and now resides in Chihuahua, Mexico.

For most of you this is the first newsletter you have received since our fall 2003 issue. Due to a serious matter of fraud perpetrated against us by a new printer and mailer we employed, we lost thousands of dollars and our double issue for winter/spring was only partially printed and mailed to our subscribers (less than 1/10 received it!). It took a number of weeks to discover this problem and we have still not fully recovered from the financial loss. We apologize for any inconvenience and now have a great printer and mailing house working with us and are looking forward to staying on schedule in the future.

As we come to the year's end may I sincerely ask you to help us financially? This has been the most difficult year we have faced as a ministry and we are praying that we might finish the year and begin the next with all bills and staff salaries paid. We are also trusting the Lord for the ability to again regularly publish our newsletter and distribute it without cost around the world. If you plan on giving an end-of-the year donation would you please prayerfully consider investing in our work?

Yours for the World of the Bible,



Randall

P.O. Box 827 San Marcos, TX 78667-0827 (512) 396-3799 Fax (512) 392-9080 E-Mail: wbrandl@itouch.net

NEW DISCOVERIES AT QUMRAN continued...

Above the level at which the store jars were discovered was the first-century A.D./C.E. surface. It contained abundant pottery and was datable by the presence of several coins (see photo below left). This surface represented the last phase of habitation of the Qumran community, which was ended by the Roman invasion of 68 A.D. /C.E. Thereafter, a Roman garrison occupied the site.



Coins: Alexander Jannaeus, Pontius Pilate, lepta (widow's mite)



Worker Yusef Muhammad Abu-Amryeh uncovering store jar

The most important discovery of the excavation was of nine animal bone deposits (see below) like the one we discovered last year. These burials of animal bones (of mixed species) were usually covered with broken pieces of pottery, reflecting adherence to Jewish ritual law. Sacrifices in the Temple were disposed of in this manner and the place of their deposition was considered a sacred place. The preponderance of burials in this one area indicates that it was such a “sacred place” and may have had some link with the scrolls. The bones were collected in a special manner to avoid contamination and DNA analysis is planned in laboratories at the Weizman Institute of Science. Since most of the Dead Sea Scrolls were made of parchment (sheep skin) and have had DNA analysis, our intention is to compare our bones with the scrolls to reveal genetic matches in sheep families and therefore, a connection between the site and the scrolls. A new scholarly theory denies a connection between the Qumran settlement and the scrolls, arguing that Qumran was a Roman villa or rural plantation involved in regional



pottery and bones mixed *in situ* (in the place where found)



Volunteer Rich Saum removes bones for DNA analysis

perfume production and that the scrolls came only from Jerusalem. Our discoveries are significant in that they substantiate the traditional theory that Jewish priests lived at the site and were involved in hiding the scrolls in the nearby caves. The jars were found, produced exclusively at Qumran, match the type found in the scroll caves, a number of which (caves 7-10) lay directly below our site on the plateau, and the famous Cave 4 (from which some 15,000 manuscript fragments were removed) is but a stones throw from our excavation. The bone burials, which are unique to Qumran, can best be explained by references in the Dead Sea Scrolls to ritual concerns over bones and descriptions of a communal meal (see the Dead Sea text *Messianic Rule*) based on Isaiah 25:6 which predicts an end time banquet prepared by God for all the peoples. The biblical text speaks of pieces of meat with fat and marrow, indicating remains of a sacrifice and of the particular parts of the animal given to God (but here given by God to the people). Apparently, the Qumran community was rehearsing this “messianic banquet” in preparation for the soon coming of the Messiah and the restoration of Israel. The sacred contents were then buried in accordance with ceremonial law (outside the camp) and with pieces of the pottery associated with the ritual (broken since it had been ritually contaminated).

NEW DISCOVERIES AT QUMRAN continued...

Our discoveries have revealed more of the mysteries of the Qumran community and offer scholars new material for further assessing the religious beliefs and practices of this Jewish sect that saw the last days of the Second Temple, the career of Jesus and the formation of the early Church. As such, they are a unique witness to the history that hosted both Judaism and Christianity and make possible new insights into the cultural background of the pivotal events of this period.



Dr. Price being interviewed at press conference



Article in *Ha'aretz* (a leading Israeli newspaper)

Be Part of the Team!

Join Dr. Randall Price on his next ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG

June 12- July 28, 2005

Contact World of the Bible Ministries for further details.

Bedouin Discoverer of Dead Sea Scrolls Found!

This summer in Israel we met Sheikh Muhammad Hamad Ubiayt of the Ta'amareh Bedouin tribe who was present at the original discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls in the 1940's. Our team filmed an exclusive interview with him (in Arabic) on location at the scroll caves. His testimony adds some new and interesting details to the story of the original discoveries for the first time! We hope to publish this interview in the near future.



Filming Muhammad Hamad Ubiayt recounting the story of the discovery of the Dead Sea scrolls



Page from Palestinian magazine verifying Muhammad Hamad Ubiayt as one of the discoverers of the Dead Sea Scrolls



Dr. Price with Muhammad Hamad Ubiayt at Cave 1 where first seven scrolls were found in the 1940's

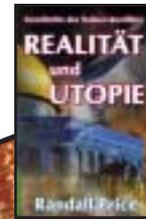
Taking the Word to the World

International Ministry Report

This spring Dr. Price conducted his first prophetic conference in Mexico in the city of Monterrey (population 5 million). The 3-day conference, hosted by local missionaries Mike and Cindy Lancaster, consisted of power point presentations to the public and question/answer sessions in a civic auditorium followed by a pastor's conference at a local church. The public event drew large crowds with many people saying that they had never heard Bible prophecy taught before. One attending the conference wrote in response: "I had never before understood the Bible in such a way and now know what the prophecies are about ... thank you!"

Dr. Price was the only foreign speaker at the *Osterconferenz* ("Easter Conference") in Dubendorf, Switzerland hosted by the Midnight Call organization. The 5-day conference was attended by some 2,000 people with Dr. Price delivering the main message: *Warum die Auferstehung so bedeutsam ist*

("The Importance of the Resurrection") on Easter Sunday morning to the largest crowd of the conference. He also presented several power point lectures throughout the conference. It was also a special honor that *Realite und Utopia* the German translation of Dr. Price's book *Fast Facts on the Middle East Conflict* was released for the first time in conjunction with the conference. Dr. Price will tour Germany and Switzerland this October and November lecturing in conferences, churches, Bible schools, and seminaries on the the prophetic significance of modern Israel, the Middle East conflict, and biblical archaeology. This information is vital for these countries at the present time as there is great ignorance of literal interpretation of prophecy and anti-Semitism has dramatically increased with the U.S.-led War on Terrorism. Please pray for this international outreach.



Visualize the Future!

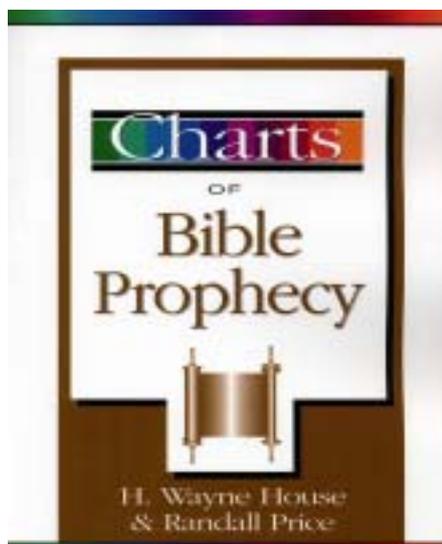
Dr. Price has teamed up with Dr. Wayne House, President of Oregon Theological Seminary, to produce this timely and much-needed chartbook on Bible prophecy. Pastors, teachers, students, and those wanting to get a grasp on biblical prophecy need this vital book!

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Jerusalem *On a Deadline with Destiny*

by Dr. Randall Price

When I first lived in Jerusalem some 25 years ago it was a modest city of some 100,000 with much of its outskirts still uninhabited desert. Today, it is Israel's largest city with nearly a million people and its population has now expanded to fill its fringes. Jerusalem's growth has only been exceeded by its growing controversy among the nations of the world. Despite the focus on Baghdad as Iraq attempts self-government, Jerusalem will remain at the center of both political and prophetic events in the future. One cannot spend time in this famous city without coming to the realization that it is on a deadline with destiny. Walking around the Temple Mount just a few weeks ago reminded me again of this reality. There I witnessed piles of archaeological debris – evidence of Muslim destruction of Israel's past – while being banned from entrance to the Dome of the Rock, which sits over the site of the destroyed Jewish Temple. After 35 years of Jewish sovereignty over the Temple Mount this exclusion of Jews and tourists from this site in the heart of Israel's capital – the latest attempt by Muslim Palestinians to usurp Jewish history in Jerusalem – warns of an impending conflict greater than any previously seen. Yet, whatever Jerusalem's past and present experiences, its greatest days, according to Scripture, lay ahead in the future.

Jerusalem occupies a chosen place in the divine plan of the ages, being distinguished as such in the praise of the Psalmist: "The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than the dwelling places of Jacob" (Psalm 87:2). Moreover, it is this city alone to which God descended, as the Psalmist again declared: "For the Lord has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His

habitation. This is My resting place forever; Here I will dwell, for I have desired it" (Psalm 132:13-14). Consequently, Jerusalem attained a status as both the holy city and as the city at the center of the world (Ezekiel 5:5). Given such privileged position, it is no wonder that Jerusalem is men-



Modern panoramic view of Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives. The Muslim Dome of the Rock (center) marks the site of the Jewish Temple.

tioned more than any other city in Scripture: more than 800 times (660 verses in the Old Testament and 142), and appears in some two-thirds of the books of the Old and almost one-half of the books of the New Testament. While Jerusalem is its most common appellation, it also occurs under other names such as Zion, Salem, and Ariel, as well as symbolically in allegory as "Hagar and Mount Sinai in Arabia" (Galatians 4:25) and in prophecy as "Sodom and Egypt" (Revelation 11:8). Of the biblical references, 465 in the Old Testament and 24 in the New refer to prophecies of Jerusalem subsequent to the time of their utterances.

In the Bible Jerusalem occupies a strategic position with respect to two major prophetic periods: "the times of the Gentiles" (Luke 21:24) and "the seventy weeks of Daniel" (Daniel 9:24-27). In the case of "the times of the Gentiles," the city pro-

phetically marks the beginning and ending of this period that stretches from the Babylonian destruction (587 B.C.) until the Second Advent of Christ. In the case of the "seventy weeks," events in Jerusalem likewise determine the beginning and ending of this prophetic period as well as effecting the parenthesis in time between the sixty-ninth and seventieth week. During the time of the First Temple, Jerusalem became the focal point of prophecy as foreign invaders sought to capture the holy city. At one such occasion the prophet Isaiah prophesied Jerusalem's deliverance while declaring God's covenantal pledge to preserve it for the future: "For I will defend this city to save it for My own sake and for My servant David's sake" (2 Kings 19:34).

Jerusalem is at the heart of messianic prophecy and redemptive history. In fact, it may be said that there could have been no such plan revealed apart from its presence (Luke 13:33b). Jerusalem

was indispensable to the preparation of Christ's first coming, being restored from ruin (Isaiah 52:7-12) to fulfill its role in the messianic advent as the city of the great king. Indeed, Jesus was sent to Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37) and the city served to mark defining moments in Jesus' earthly life and ministry: dedication (Luke 2:22-38), dialogue with the teachers in the Temple (Luke 2:41-49), temptation by the devil (Luke 4:9-12), confrontation with the money-changers (Matthew 21:12-27), signs of messiahship (John 5:19; 7:14-29; 8:2-12), trial and crucifixion (Matthew 25:27), resurrection and ascension (Luke 24:1-51; Acts 1:9-11). Following this pattern and Jesus' command that the witness to the nations begin in Jerusalem, the Church began in the city (Acts 2:1-13), the apostles performed miracles there (Acts 3), the Jerusalem Council met there (Acts 15:2-29), and from there Paul be-

gan his climatic trip to Damascus (Acts 9:1-6) and later experienced the conflict that lead to his imprisonment and death (Acts 21:27ff).

Jerusalem's destruction in A.D. 70 by the Roman Tenth Legion was predicted as the result of its rejection of Jesus and its persecution of the Church: "and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation" (Luke 19:44). Yet, Jesus' prediction included the future hope of Jerusalem's restoration when it repents and receives Him as Messiah (Matthew 23:39; Acts 3:19-21) at the Second Advent. Jesus even revealed the duration of its desolation, being "trampled underfoot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled" (Luke 21:24). Thus, Jerusalem's experience as the time of the end approaches is to be one of escalating tribulation until it becomes the Tribulation period and finally finds deliverance at Christ's coming (Matthew 24:21-31).

According to Daniel's prophecy of the seventieth week (Daniel 9:27), which informs Jesus' prophetic discourse on the Mount of Olives (Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 21), Paul's prophetic instruction to the Thessalonians (2 Thessalonians 2:4), and John's prophetic vision of the city's invasion by the nations (Revelation 11:1-2), the armies of the Antichrist will occupy the city (cf. Daniel 11:45), desecrate the Temple and usurp the place of God within it, demanding worship from the world (cf. Revelation 13:6, 15).

Zechariah's prophecy prominently chronicles this period of distress for the city, detailing the gathering of all nations against Jerusalem (Zechariah 12:2-3; 14:2) and its battles until at the climax of the campaign of Armageddon, when the final assault on Jerusalem takes place (Zechariah 12-14). The Lord will bring about Israel's national repentance beginning with "the inhabitants of Jerusalem" (Zechariah 12:8-13:2), Christ will defeat the invading armies of Antichrist (Zechariah 14:3, 12-15), deliver the Jewish Remnant in the city by an earthquake (Zechariah 14:3-4), and there set up His Millennial reign (Zechariah 14:9), transforming the city's topography (Zechariah 14:8, 10) rebuilding the Temple

(Zechariah 6:12-15), purifying and glorifying the city (Zechariah 8:3; 14:11, 20-21; cf. Isaiah 4:5-6; Jeremiah 3:17), and calling the nations to worship Him (Zechariah 14:16-19).

Isaiah, likewise, prophesies concerning Jerusalem in the Millennial Kingdom, declaring the elevation of the Temple Mount and its new position as the worship center for the world (Isaiah 2:2-3) and center of Messiah's rule over the nations, establishing universal peace (Isaiah 2:4). Isaiah also reveals the glorious reversal of Jerusalem's fortunes in the millennial restoration, announcing the predicted fulfillment for the city with the divine declaration: "For behold, I create Jerusalem for rejoicing, and her people for gladness. I will also rejoice in Jerusalem, and be glad in My people" (Isaiah 65:18). The prophet's portrayal of restoration in Jerusalem includes a restoration of harmony in the created order to prevent the defiling "[God's] holy mountain" in Jerusalem (Isaiah 11:6-9; 65:25), and the nations turning to Christ, becoming His people (Isaiah 11:10, 12; 19:25) and beholding His glory in Jerusalem (Isaiah 66:18-20).

The prophet Ezekiel focuses on Jerusalem's future Millennial Temple (Ezekiel 37:25-28; 40-48) and the city's extended sacred status due to the Lord's return to dwell in Jerusalem (Ezekiel 43:1-7; cf. 37:26-28) and His conferring upon it a new descriptive title: "YHWH Shammah: The Lord is there" (Ezekiel 48:35).

The final assault on the city is predicted to occur at the conclusion of the thousand year reign of Christ when Satan, released from his imprisonment deceives the nations and gathers an army to march against King Messiah enthroned in Jerusalem (Revelation 20:7-9a). As He had promised (2 Kings 19:34), the Lord defends Jerusalem and de-



Futuristic view from the Mount of Olives of the rebuilt Third Temple on the Temple Mount. Photo by Randy Yach

stroy these last adversaries of His holy city (Revelation 20:9b). With the creation of the new heavens and new earth for the eternal state, apparently an earthly Jerusalem will continue in relationship to the heavenly Jerusalem in fulfillment of its divine destiny as the place where God's Name will remain forever (2 Chronicles 33:4; cf. Psalm 48:8; 68:16; 132:14 Joel 3:20; Micah 4:7).

Today, disparate voices have arisen – even in the church – denouncing the reality of Jerusalem's promised future. Reading such promises as abrogated for the literal city and instead transferred symbolically to the church, they view Jerusalem as no different from any other city on earth. However, as we have seen, Christ Himself has prophesied to one-day return to this city (Acts 1:11), and this fact alone set it apart for literal future fulfillment. Therefore, in light of the position Jerusalem holds in the prophetic program, and how peace will finally be brought to this planet by its fulfillment, let us heed the command of the Psalmist to "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Psalm 122:6)!

[This article was adapted from one of Dr. Price's entries in the new Popular Encyclopedia of Bible Prophecy edited by Tim LaHaye and Ed Hindson (Harvest House Publishers) October 2004. It may be pre-ordered from our office toll-free at (866) 604-7322].

Mission in Europe 2004



Dr. Price speaks at the Berhausen, Germany Israel Conference



Dr. Price preaches at a Brethern Church in Holzerlenger



Randall and Beverlee at Bergan-Belsen at Anne Frank memorial

During the months of October and November Dr. and Mrs. Price conducted a mission to Germany and Switzerland. Both of these countries are considered anti-Israel and there is a growing anti-Semitism in many parts. The state churches have abandoned many evangelical positions, such as biblical inerrancy, and have had very little teaching on biblical prophecy. For these reasons it was a wonderful opportunity to be invited to bring accurate biblical teaching to these churches. Dr. Price preached in four Bible conferences and in a number of churches as well as teaching in a Bible college and seminary.

The first conference was held in the retreat center for the state church of Germany in the northern city of Krelingen. Dr. Price spoke on biblical prophecy and presented a program on the Dead Sea Scrolls and their view of the end times. The next conference was in the southern city of Berhausen where the topic was the Middle East conflict and Israel in the purpose and promises of God. The next stops were churches in Holzgerlinger, Stuttgart, Bietenheim, and Mettmann and an all-day teaching to all classes of the theological seminary in Neues Leben. One of the volunteers for our Qumran Plateau excavation is a teacher at this seminary as well as one of Dr. Price's Dallas Seminary classmates (Dr. Cleon Rogers, Jr.). The final teaching in Germany was with the Bibel-Center in Breckerfeld where Dr. Price spoke in an Israel Conference and taught a three-day course to the student body. Johannes Vogel, the director of the Bibel-Center served as our host for all of the conference and church speaking in Germany. The Bibel-Center has been a strong witness to biblical prophecy and the truth of the Bible for over 40 years and has trained thousands of young men and women for full time Christian service.

Next it was on to Switzerland where Dr. Price ministered in Zurich and in a conference in St. Gallen on behalf of his Swiss publisher Schwengeler Verlag. During our time in Germany we were also able to visit some of the historic churches such as the Cologne church (built in the 1100's) and tour the Roman ruins in this city from the 1st-3rd centuries A.D. One special trip was to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp with the grandson of one of a former SS concentration camp commandant. He is now a Christian and a supporter of the Jewish people and told us his grandfather and father (who also served as a Nazi soldier at the age of 15) became believers after the war! This was also the camp where both Ann Frank and Corrie Ten Boon were prisoners.

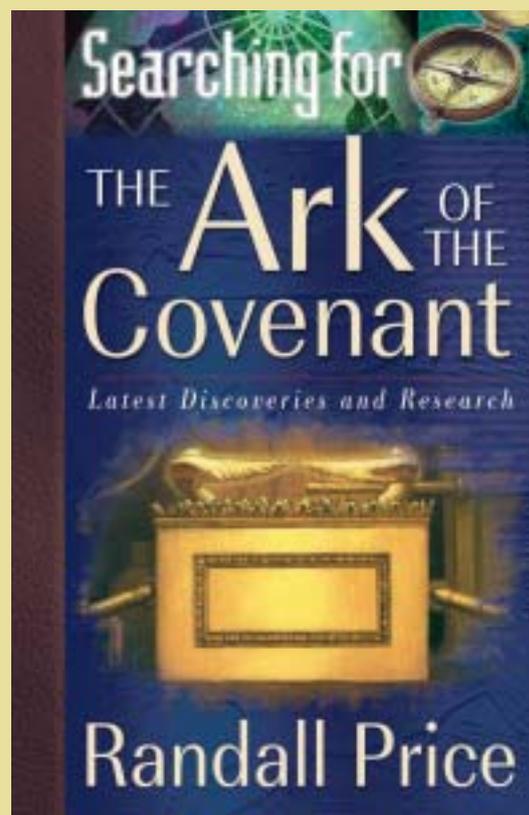
We thank the Lord for this mission in Europe and have plans to return in April of 2006 for an even more extensive conference schedule and teaching in many of the secular universities. Thank you, also, for your prayers and gifts that continue to make these missions possible

NEW RELEASE!

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Randall Price

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Where on Earth is Dr. Price?

WBM Winter Speaking Schedule

October 19 - November 13: Lecture Tour to Germany and Switzerland (lectures in Bible schools, seminars, churches)
November 17-23: 56th Annual Evangelical Theological Society Conference, Marriott River Walk, San Antonio, TX (Panel speaker on theme: "Second Temple Judaism & Dispensational Interpretation," Dispensational Study Group on Nov. 18).
November 29-December 1: *Seminar on the Dead Sea Scrolls*, Trinity Southwest University, Albuquerque, NM (505) 332-4253.
December 6-8: 13th Annual Pre-Trib Study Group Conference, Harvey Hotel, Dallas, TX (Paper, Monday, Dec. 6, 3:30 P.M.: "Is the Modern State of Israel Prophetically Significant?", Tuesday, Dec. 7, 7:15 P.M.: Current Events Discussion), for information contact: Pre-Trib Research Center, POB 14111, Arlington, TX 76094-1111 (817) 460-8252 or icet@pre-trib.org.
January 24-28: His Hill Prophecy Course Teaching, Comfort, Texas (U.S. Torchbearers School)
February 4-6: Indian Hills Community Church Men's Retreat, Lincoln, NE (402) 453-4541
February 11-12: Bay County Public Library Book Fair Lectures, Panama City, Florida (850)872-7500
February 14-17: Conference-Calvary Chapel, Salt Lake City (801)264-9999
February 25-27: Bethel/Poplar Creek Church Conference, Milwaukee, WI. (414)665-4935

Report From Jerusalem

Ancient Pool of Siloam Discovered

In June Dr. Price was present for the discovery of the ancient Pool of Siloam from the Second Temple period in excavations headed by Jerusalem archaeologists Eli Shukran and Ronny Reich. Previously, the site of the ancient pool was marked at the southern end of Hezekiah's Water Tunnel by the remains of small columns situated in the



Close-up of the steps of the newly discovered entrance to the Pool of Siloam.

exit of the water conduit between two modern Arab buildings. The new finds were made just down the hill next to the traditional site of the King's Gardens. The discovery was made when workmen were making repairs to a sewer line and accidentally uncovered a row of steps. At first there it was thought that the steps might have been an ancient entrance to the Gihon Spring, but after the archaeologists were called in and more ground removed, including some trees in the garden, the monumental Second Temple pe-

riod architecture began to reveal itself and confirmed its identity as the biblical Pool of Siloam. The Pool of Siloam (Hebrew *Shiloach* "sent") is believed to have been situated over the site of the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the fuller's field. The fact that the conduit supplied water to the

city symbolized "life," while the act of a fuller symbolized "cleansing." These symbols may have been behind the selection of this site for the prophet Isaiah and his son's fateful meeting with the Judean king Ahaz (Isaiah 7:3), the place where the prophecy of Immanuel was given (Isaiah 7:14). God would have brought "life" and a "cleansing [from sin]" if Ahaz had trusted God. But, the king rejected the prophet's offer and so this same spot saw the fulfillment of Isaiah's dire warning (Isaiah 7:16-25) as



Newly uncovered Pool of Siloam, a site of Jesus' miracle, from the Second Temple period

the Assyrian official Rabshakeh came and threatened Ahaz's son Hezekiah with invasion (Isaiah 36:2). It was fitting that this site again become in the Second Temple period a place associated with "life" and "cleansing" as Jesus told a man born blind to wash his eyes in the Pool of Siloam in order to receive his sight (John 9:6-7). In this case the man believed God's word and received and what was promised. Hopefully, the new discovery of this ancient site will remind those in Jerusalem and in the nations of these ancient truths and the promise of the Messiah, a Savior from blindness in this world to all who will trust Him (Psalm 36:9; John 8:12).

Why is the Temple Mount the most volatile property on Earth?

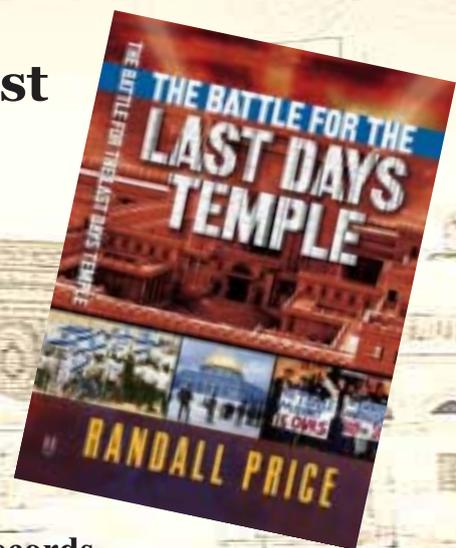
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- Why can't the Temple Mount be shared?
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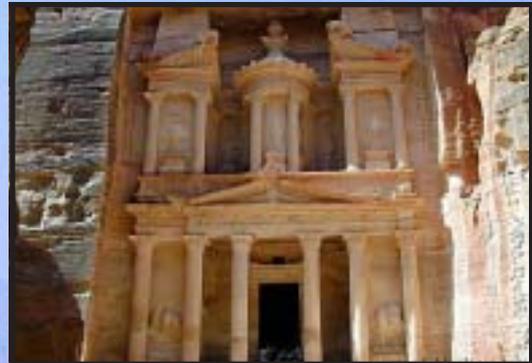
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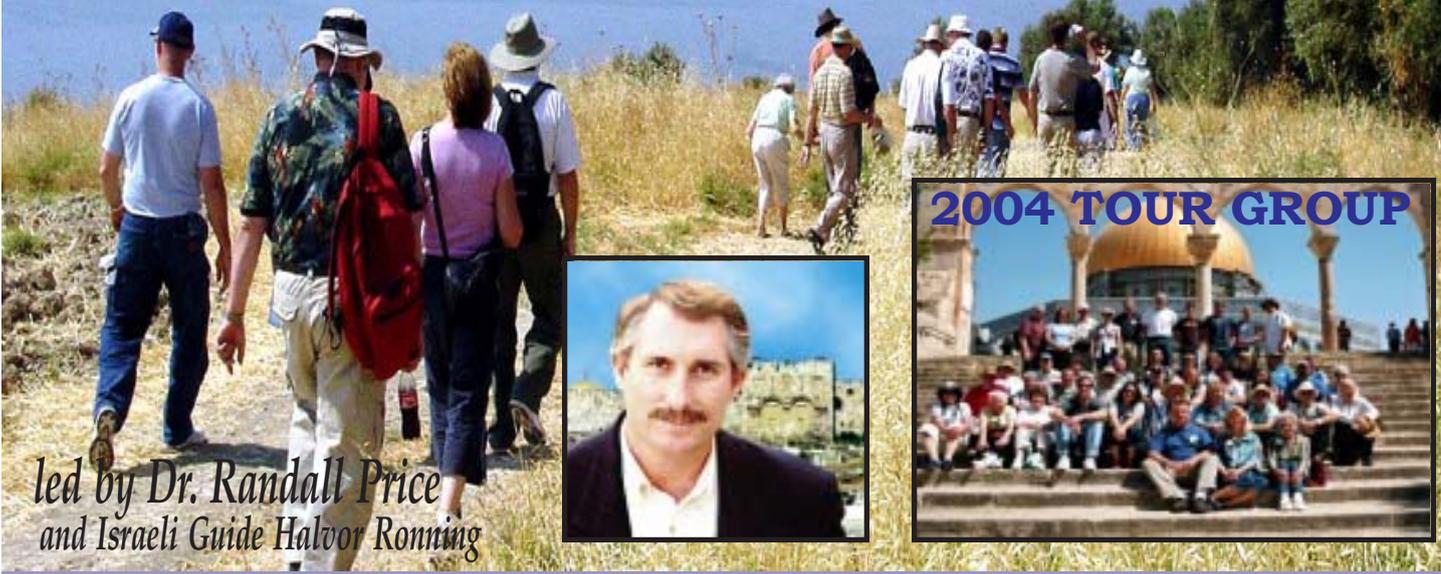
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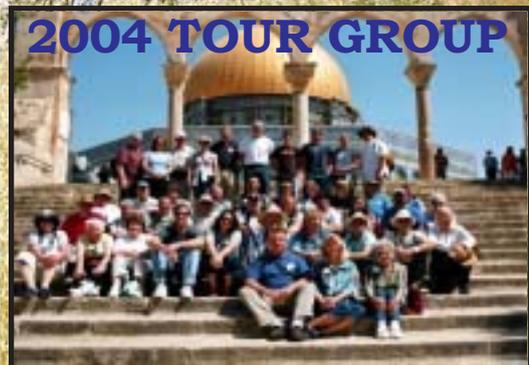
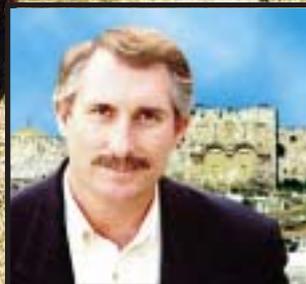
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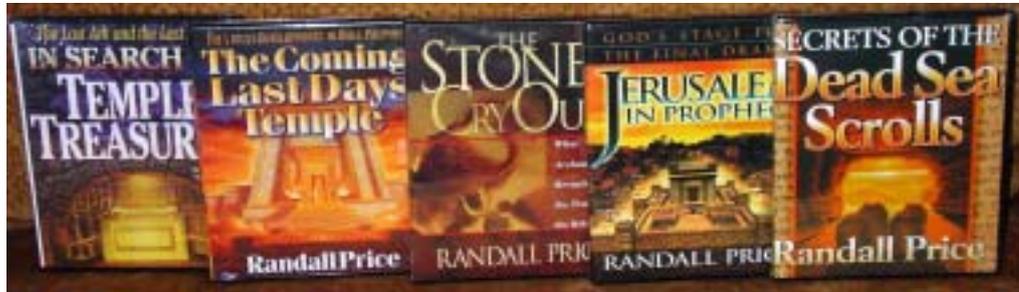
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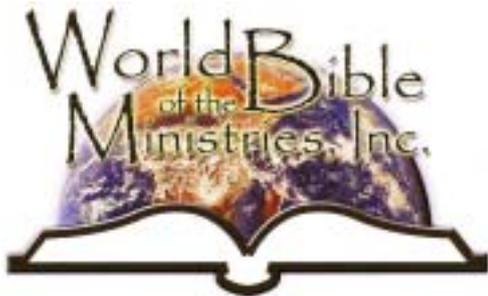
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