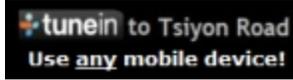
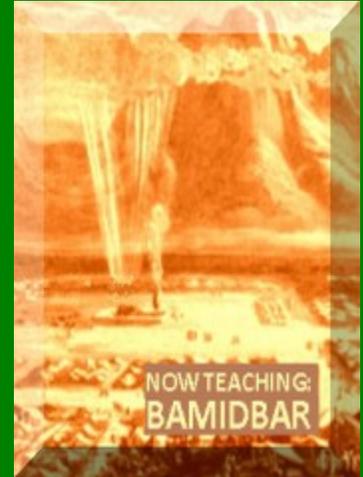




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*"Speak to the sons of Israel, and tell them that they should make themselves fringes in the borders of their garments .. and that they put on the fringe of each border a cord of blue and it shall be to you for a fringe, that you may look on it ..that you may remember and do all my commandments, and be holy to your Elohim."* Bamidbar/Numbers 15

Listen FREE this Sabbath - Tsiyon Road Sabbath broadcasting begins Feb 10, 6 PM, Jerusalem time, and continues for 48 hours. The Midrash is broadcast 8 times!

## TSIYON NEWS

**PASSOVER 2015** - Passover is always a blessed time of year, but this year even more so for us here at Tsiyon. We expect to have our building completed by then and will be ready for our members to join us for our Passover celebration! We invite any and all of our Tsiyon members to come and join us for this Passover, RSVP, around April 4th of 2015! That's coming up soon, so contact us ASAP for information and/or to let us know you would like to come and join us. We have limited capacity, so, if you think you might like to come, please [contact us](#) soon from our website, or, if in the USA, call us toll-free at(888) 230-2440.

### New Tsiyon Video: "Be Happy In The Last Days"

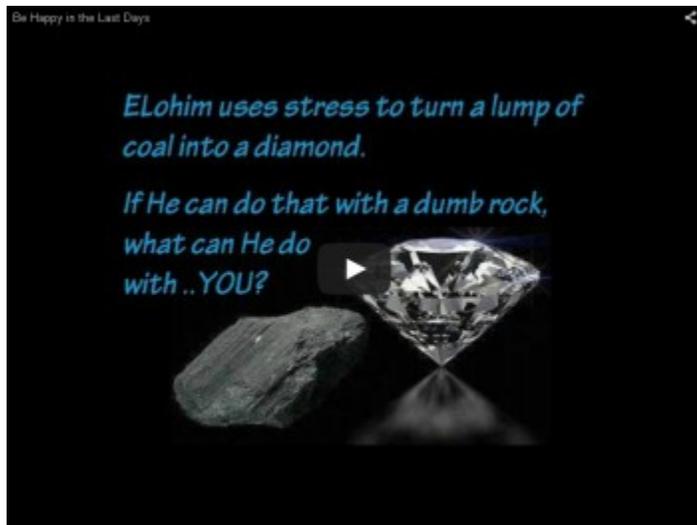
Picture Right: Graphic from this new video illustrates how YHWH uses stress to bring out the best in His own. Click the picture to view the video from the website.

**"Be Happy In The Last Days"** - This is the title of our latest full-length video message; recorded for you at Tsiyon Tabernacle of Greater Austin. This deals with the underlying reasons for the growing stress we are all facing, here in these Last Days. It includes some eye-opening graphs and charts showing the roots of the economic instability of these days, as well as indicating why we should expect the economic picture to keep

getting worse for the vast majority of people. This truthful picture is not a pretty one, however, we need not be dismayed or unhappy because of it. In fact, the Scriptures tell us how to be happy in the Last Days, despite the growing stress all around us.

**Join Us Online** - We are currently putting out at least one of these videos each month. This will lead, in a few months, to live online meetings with our Tsiyon members via the internet. Sign up as a member [here](#) to join us.

**"Be Happy In The Last Days" DVD** - Not online, but still want to see or share the video? Get a DVD to watch on your TV! Just send us a note with your name and address and free will offering and request this video by name. Find our address at the bottom of this newsletter.



Need to talk to us? - In the USA and Canada just call us toll free at (888) 230-2440 for help. Internationally, email us and we will arrange a phone or Skype call for you.

## From Eliyahu

Hello friends,

In a recent Midrash we read about a cluster of grapes from the Hebron area that was so large it took two men to carry. Dawn gave me this picture (right) of a boy carrying grapes from Hebron. As you can see, those grapes may not be as big now as in Numbers 13, but they are still some pretty impressive grapes, and definitely an armfull for this little guy.

These beautiful grapes are typical of the abundant delicious fruits and vegetables of the Land of Israel - when Israelite people are in control of the Land. When we are not, the Land soon reverts to a barren and empty wilderness. This has definitely been true since the destruction of Judah by the Romans forward.

Dio Cassius, writing at the time of the destruction of Judah, described the ruin of the Land:

Of their forts the fifty strongest were razed to the ground. Nine hundred and eighty-five of their best-known villages were destroyed....

Thus the whole of Judea became desert, as indeed had been foretold to the Jews before the war. For the tomb of Solomon, whom these folk celebrate in their sacred rites, fell of its own accord into fragments, and wolves and hyenas, many in number, roamed howling through their cities. [Dio Cassius, *History of the Romans*, lxi, 12-14, cited by de Haas, *History*, pp. 55-56]

The desolation of the Land of "Palestine" (the Roman name) continued down to the modern era. The British Consul in Palestine reported in 1857:

The country is in a considerable degree empty of inhabitants and *therefore its greatest need is that of a body of population*.. [James Finn to the Earl of Clarendon, Jerusalem, September 15, 1857, F.O. 78/1294 (Pol. No. 36)]

Many historians have reported the same thing, right down to more recent history and the start of the Jewish Return. One historian wrote:

In the twelve and a half centuries between the Arab conquest in the seventh century and the beginnings of the Jewish return in the 1880's, Palestine was laid waste. Its ancient canal and irrigation systems were destroyed and the wondrous fertility of which the Bible spoke vanished into desert and desolation... Under the Ottoman empire of the Turks, the policy of defoliation continued; the hillsides were denuded of trees and the valleys robbed of their topsoil. [Carl Hermann Voss, *The Palestine Problem Today, Israel and Its Neighbors*" (Boston, 1953), p. 13]



**Boy with Grapes From Hebron, Israel**

The truth is, the returning Jews in that empty and barren Land did not become the majority population by "stealing" land from Arabs. Rather, they purchased the over-priced barren land from the Arab sheiks, who laughed at them while happily relieving them of their money. It was only later, after

the returnees multiplied and began transforming the Land into a productive wonder, that Arabs began to complain of the growing Jewish presence. By then, the gathering momentum towards a Jewish state was unstoppable. Since the establishment of the Jewish State of Israel in 1948, the Land of Israel has risen to a level of fruitfulness and beauty it has not known since Biblical times.

Israel's Islamic enemies are not happy about her success. They want Israel gone and they want to claim all that Israel has built for themselves. But what would become of the Land of Israel if they got their wish? Perhaps Gush Katif provides an object lesson in that regard.

On August 15, 2005 the unthinkable happened. Jews were forcibly removed from their homes in all 21 Jewish communities in Gush Katif, the Jewish bloc of communities in Gaza. These pioneers had built their homes and incredible greenhouses for more than 30 years, with the government's blessing, on the sand dunes of the Mediterranean Sea. What were once beautiful and thriving Jewish communities became a desert of destruction overnight. Everything was uprooted and destroyed, and Gaza has not bloomed since.

[<http://cfoicheartland.com/dror/>]



The Land and the people of Israel need each other. Not the Jews [Judah] only, but all twelve tribes of Israel. Indeed the return of a remnant from the scattered twelve tribes in the "greater Exodus" is prophesied for the near future. Even now YHWH is calling and gathering that remnant from the four corners of the earth. [[Remnant Prophecies](#)]

Israel, rise up, that we may return as One Man to our Land!

Blessings and Shalom,

Eliyahu ben David

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## Ancient Rock Proves House of David Real

Reprint: The Blaze, Dec. 16, 2014

A rock found in Israel and currently on display at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art offers new evidence supporting the Bible's description of the rule of King David, archaeology experts believe.

The stone's inscription, which appears to refer to King David's dynasty, is believed to have been written in 830 B.C., only 150 years after he reigned.

A recent article by the Biblical Archaeology Society described the inscription referencing the Davidic dynasty as "extraordinary" and a discovery that substantiates the biblical narrative of the storied king:

The inscription hails from Tel Dan in northern Israel and commemorates the conquests of Hazael, king of Aram-Damascus, enemy of the ancient kingdoms of Israel and Judah. Hazael claims to have killed both Jehoram, king of Israel, and Ahaziah, king of "the House of David" — or Judah. That the nation of Judah is referred to as the "House of David" is significant because it is the only archaeological evidence of a historical David — a belief that had been hotly debated prior to this discovery — thus substantiating part of the Biblical narrative.



**Archaeologists believe the stone's inscription supports the biblical account of King David's dynasty.**

(Photo courtesy the Israel Museum, Jerusalem Israel Antiquities Authority / photo by Meidad Suchowolski)

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported Monday that that the rock is one of the items featured in the Met's "Assyria to Iberia at the Dawn of the Classical Age" exhibit.

The museum called it "the earliest extra-biblical reference to the House of David."

"There is no doubt that the inscription is one of the most important artifacts ever found in relation to the Bible," Eran Arie, curator of Israelite and Persian periods at the Israel Museum, wrote in the exhibit catalog, according to JTA.

JTA reported that the rock measures 13 inches by 16 inches and has 13 lines of surviving text.

In the museum's catalog for the exhibit, Arie wrote that the inscription bearing David's name is a "clear indication that the 'House of David' was known throughout the region and that the king's reputation was not a literary invention of a much later period."

This "clearly validates the biblical description of a figure named David becoming the founder of the dynasty of Judahite kings in Jerusalem," Arie wrote.

JTA described Arie's translation of the dramatic text:

What is clear is that the Aram-Damascene king Hazael brags of having killed 70 kings, including of Israel and of the "House of David." (The round number, scholars agree, is probably exaggerated, although Hazael did have a reputation for being ruthless and successful.)

The breaks in the stone neither obstruct nor obscure the "bytdvd," or House of David, inscription, which remains "absolutely intact and clear," said Ira Spar, professor of history and ancient studies at Ramapo College in New Jersey and a research Assyriologist at the Metropolitan Museum.

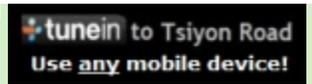
Epigraphers and biblical historians agree almost unanimously that the letters "bytdvd" refer to the House of King David, according to Spar.

"While it is clear that David was king of Israel, the archaeological evidence for the extent of his kingdom remains unclear," Spar told JTA.

Steven Fine, a Jewish history professor at Yeshiva University and director of the Center for Israel Studies, believes that there is keen interest in the public for viewing biblical artifacts.

"It's part of the grappling with secularization that makes this so important to some people," Fine told JTA.

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