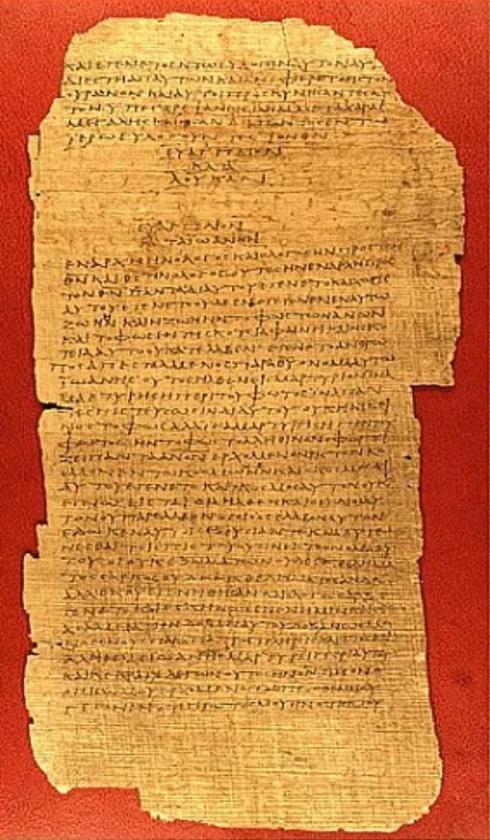


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Every Sabbath



Papyrus 75 – circa 175 AD
Greek fragment of the Book of Luke

LUKE

The GOOD NEWS ACCORDING to



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“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of YHWH is risen on you. For, behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the peoples; but YHWH will arise on you, and his glory shall be seen on you.” Isaiah 60:1, 2

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If I Put Messiah First...

WATCH THIS VIDEO

3:07

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From Eliyahu

Doctor Luke, and the Good News he was writing about, came into the world just when needed the most. Good news is always best when contrasted with bad news, and there was plenty of bad news in the first century. Rome was bad news everywhere!

Luke was a well educated physician. He was very articulate and precise in his use of the Greek language in which he wrote. His accuracy and faithfulness to detail are what you would expect from a doctor. He was a highly intelligent and earnest believer in Y'shua the Messiah. He was also well traveled and experienced within the ancient Roman world, having traveled with Paul on his mission journeys far and wide. Luke personally knew, and had access to, virtually all of the people who had been involved with Messiah from the start. He carefully interviewed these witnesses, as he said, "having traced the course of all things accurately from the first, to write in order" to produce a trustworthy narrative. Luke wrote the Gospel of Luke, and the Book of Acts, which continues the narrative of the Messianic community after Messiah's departure. Scholars often see these two as one work, which they refer to as Luke-Acts. As the narrative concludes before major events of the 60s, such as the death of James the Just, the death of Paul in Rome, and the destruction of Jerusalem, it is logical to conclude that Luke-Acts was written before any of those events. This would place Luke's entire narrative within thirty years of Messiah's ministry. Luke gives us the big picture of the entire Messianic movement in those vital formative years. (Luke 1:3)



Today, as we begin with Luke, I'm seeing the world of which he wrote.



Aureus of Augustus

The ascension of Augustus as Caesar of Rome in 27 BC marked the end of the Roman Republic and the start of the Roman Empire. Imperial Rome became the largest city in the world thereafter, with a population of up to 90,000,000! That's right, 90 million people in one ancient city! All manner of debauchery was encouraged and exploited there, and exported from there to everywhere else. This is the Rome that dominated the first century.

It would be hard, if not impossible, to overstate the impact of the Roman Empire on the first century. The iron fist of Rome was ever present everywhere around the Great Sea. Rome viewed themselves as owning the world. While it's true that Rome brought order to the world, along with roads, aqueducts, and civilization, it's also true that Rome was an absolute dictatorship with very little, if any, respect, for god or man.

The prophet Daniel had seen the rise of Rome centuries in advance, in the figure of the fourth beast that would dominate Israel. He said; ".The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be diverse from all the kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces." Daniel 7:23

Rome was indeed brutal, and unstoppable. It was also very different from earlier kingdoms. Rome developed the mechanistic mindset that produced its mechanized legions, its hierarchical world government, and its domination of everything, including nature itself. Rome sought to change time by Imperial Decree, totally changing the calendar and bringing time itself into the

service of the Empire. Rome created the first corporations, allowing for the hoarding of previously impossible amounts of wealth. Rome was the ultimate benefactor of the elite - at the expense of everybody else. Rome invented and modeled the mindset and mechanisms that continue to be the blueprint for "civilization." Rome continues to be a beast, and a menace, to ordinary people everywhere, even now. In a few years from now, Rome will rise again in its final form of global empire, only to be defeated forever.

In the first century Judea wanted to be rid of Rome. They envisioned a Messiah who would lead the Jews to glorious victory against the Roman oppressor. Unfortunately for them, but fortunately for us, YHWH had other plans. He allowed the horrible specter of a seemingly undefeatable Rome to come along, precisely because He wanted to show His people another way of winning. He wanted them to see that they already had the most powerful weapon in the universe, if only they would use it. He sent His Son into the world to demonstrate the one power in the universe big enough to conquer Rome, and every enemy, even death itself. Of course, I am talking about the unsurpassed power of the love of God through Messiah, in us!

Luke-Acts tells that amazing story of how the love of God in Messiah defeated Rome, and all evil, in the life of every person who believes. It is the story of the Good News, and it is our story, too.

Tonight we begin to consider the Book of Luke. That's at 8 PM CST at Tsiyon.Net. Join us!

Shalom,

Eliyahu ben David
Tsiyon.Org

PS - Modern Israel has the same problems as all western democracies. See article below.

Some 20,000 march in largest-ever Jerusalem Pride Parade, under heavy security

Amid anger over gay parental surrogacy rights, nation-state law, large crowds gather in the capital.

Reprint: The Times of Israel, 2 August 2018, 6:37 pm



Jerusalem's largest-ever gay pride parade kicked off Thursday afternoon with some 20,000 Israelis flooding the streets of the capital, under heavy police protection. Some reports put the number of marchers as high as 30,000; Hadashot TV news, citing the 20,000 figure, said the organizers were a little disappointed that the turnout wasn't higher.

The two-kilometer (1.2 mile) march through the city center came after a month of LGBT community protests against a surrogacy law passed last month that excluded gay men — and three years after a deadly knife attack at the Jerusalem march by an ultra-Orthodox zealot that killed 16-year-old marcher Shira Banki. Some protesters took a distinctly anti-government tone that reflected the anger in the LGBT community over the surrogacy law, calling on Netanyahu to resign and denouncing last month's nation-state law, which critics say discriminates against minorities. Some marchers carried signs that called on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to resign, and termed his government "an embarrassment."

Organizers handed out flowers to marchers in memory of Banki as they exited the starting point in Liberty Bell Park. Demonstrators chanted their way up Keren Hayesod street, but paused and quieted down when they reached the junction where Banki was murdered. Many placed flowers in front of a large poster with her picture on it.

Security at the annual parade was at an all-time high, with some 2,500 police officers, including border police and plainclothes cops, deployed in the capital to protect the event. As in each year since the 2015 stabbing attack, police restricted entry points into the march, and performed security checks on participants.

"Our job is to make sure everyone can express themselves," Israel Police Commissioner Roni Alsheich told journalists at the event, "and of course that no one gets hurt." Major roads through the city center, including Keren Hayesod and Hillel Street, were closed to vehicular traffic from 3 p.m.



Despite the heavy police presence, the crowd of mostly young Israelis appeared relaxed and upbeat before the start of the parade. Participants sported rainbow stickers, flags, and signs with slogans such as "Born this way," "There is love in me, and it wins," and "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Teenagers donned colorful face paint and older marchers draped pride flags over their shoulders as opening speakers encouraged them to celebrate their identity — and to drink plenty of water as they stood in the hot sun.

The crowd was also peppered with people wearing kippot provided by religious LGBT activists — one of the more unique aspects of the pride parade in Jerusalem.

Not everyone was happy with the march. A small counterprotest led by Orthodox rabbis at Liberty Bell Park demanded a "normal country."

The signs read, "Jerusalem is the holy city," and "Jerusalem and Sodom are not twin cities." (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Earlier this week, Bentzi Gopstein, head of the extremist Lehava organization, branded members of the LGBT community "terrorists" in an online video, and urged members of his extremist group to attend the protest under the banner "Jerusalem is not Sodom."

Lehava activists claimed police officers "disguised themselves as gays" in order to infiltrate their protest and detain one of their members. A police spokesman denied the claim.





Darwinian Scam (#6)

See: [Darwinian Scam - Not Really Science](#) - now showing on [YouTube](#).

Everyone has asked themselves at least once: Where did I come from?

Then in school, and endorsed by society, you are spoon-fed the whole 'You came from an insect or a fish or a unicorn or a speck of pond scum - like everyone else! You're just an animal! Survival of the fittest!'

What you're not told, unless you look for it yourself, is that Darwin expressed a flaw in his own theory. A flaw that... with the help of time, would smooth this little flaw out and prove his theory to be correct! It's just a matter of time... Well, Darwin ole pal, it's been 150+ years and there is still this glaring, teensy, little

flaw. Time didn't prove your theory correct and in fact, I think Darwin would have to stand by his own statement if he were alive - since the number of transitional forms discovered in these past 150+ years has been... well, zero. That's right folks, nil. Nigh. Nothing. Zip. Nada.

Yes yes, we have the fruit fly - and Eliyahu talks about this adorable little 'speciation event' where the little bugger turned into a... ..Another fruit fly!!! Yup. Real pseudoscience. That was supposed to be an oxymoron. This evolution gimmick is real fun, but take a look at the full video to get all this information better delivered to you by someone more serious and with lots and lots of fun slides and graphics. Onward!

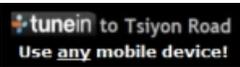
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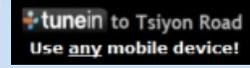


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