

UNITED ISRAEL WORLD UNION BULLETIN



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Editor, Ross K. Nichols

Social Sites



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Torah Reading Around the World Around the Clock!

For several years now, friends and members of United Israel World Union have participated in a unique joint effort of the Hebrew Torah Reading Team.

Deuteronomy 31:10-11 contains a command to read the entire Torah publicly every seven years, at the set time of release, during the Festival of Sukkot. For several years now, the Hebrew Torah Reading Team has taken this on as an indication of their love for the Torah. Members of the team, from all over the world are invited to sign up to participate in a "round-the-clock" reading of the Torah in Hebrew from beginning to end.

This note was posted in our United Israel Facebook Group by Lim Chong Kiat.

"A big Baruch YHVH and well done to all the readers who helped out in the Round-the-clock reading of the entire Torah (Genesis/Bereshit to Deuteronomy/Devarim). This year we had readers from the USA, Australia and Israel, a truly round-the-world effort. While some were in bed, we'd have other readers elsewhere continuing to read. We had the seasoned readers and some beginners too and I believe everyone had a blessed time. Total time taken: 29 hours 54 mins."

I am most pleased at this achievement and with the faithfulness of all those who participated in this holy exercise. Kol HaKavod to all those who took part in this round-the-world, round-the-clock reading of the Torah!

If you would like to join the Hebrew Torah Reading Team, please contact **Kiat by email** and he can direct you.





Reading Genesis from the Heavens

This coming Sabbath, October 6th, 2018 we begin again our journey through the Annual cycle of Torah Readings. I love the Book of Genesis and every year when the cycle starts over with the Creation narrative I am reminded of the fact that these poetic passages were read from space in 1968 by members of the crew of Apollo 8. Here is the story of that historic event.

On December 21, 1968, NASA's Apollo 8 was launched. Commander Frank Borman, Command Module Pilot James Lovell and Lunar Module Pilot William Anders became the first humans to see earth from space, the first humans to travel beyond low earth orbit and the first to see the far side of the moon. It took them 3 days to travel to the moon. They orbited 10 times in 20 hours. During that orbit they also became the first humans to speak of the Creation from space, and the first humans to see that which the Creator had seen when he called the work which he had made, GOOD. I have often thought about this and the wonder they must have experienced as they beheld the beautiful planet earth from their craft.

On Christmas Eve, in what was the most watched television broadcast of the time, the three-man crew of Apollo 8 took turns reading from the Book of Genesis as they orbited the moon.

Here is the transcript of that broadcast.

Bill Anders

We are now approaching lunar sunrise and, for all the people back on Earth, the crew of Apollo 8 has a message that we would like to send to you.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the

and the earth was without form, and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep.

And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

Jim Lovell

And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

Frank Borman

And God said, Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

And God called the dry land earth; and the gathering together of the waters He called seas: and God saw that it was good.

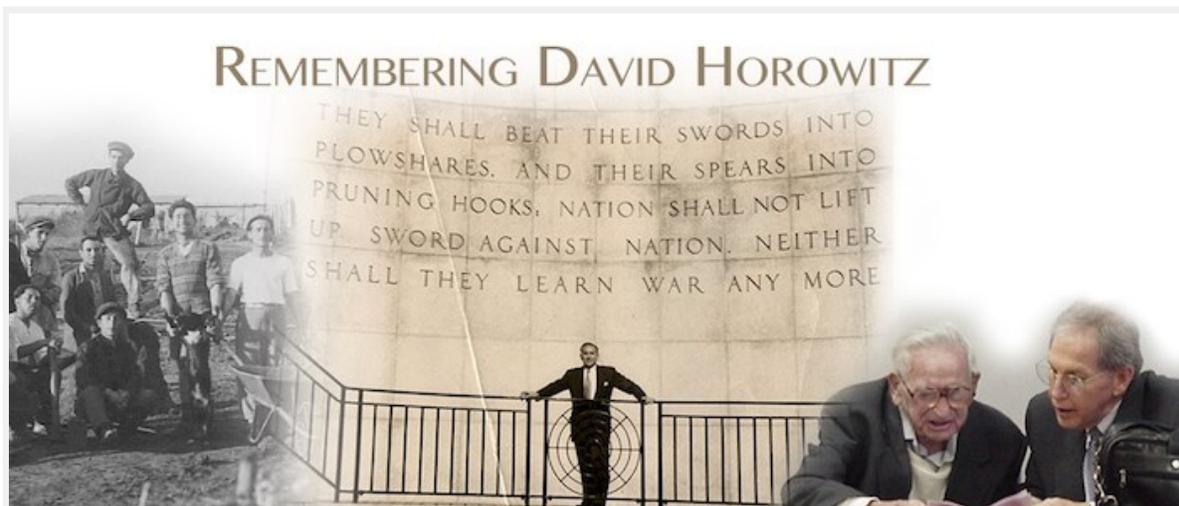
And from the crew of Apollo 8, we close with good night, good luck, a Merry Christmas – and God bless all of you, all of you on the good Earth.

For the transcript, see the article published on Nasa's site.

Williams, D. R. (2007). ***Apollo 8 Christmas Eve broadcast***. Retrieved from http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/lunar/apollo8_xmas.html

Video containing an audio file of the greeting from Apollo 8 Crew





An Historical Presidential Oath

The 43rd Serial Installment of Remembering David Horowitz by Ralph Buntyn

1989 closed the chapter on the "Eighties," a decade called the best decade ever and "the decade that made us" by the National Geographic Society. America had a new president as we celebrated the 200th anniversary of the presidency and the inauguration included a special Bible brought to Washington for the ceremony by a member of United Israel World Union. In Middle Eastern affairs there was the death of a former Time Magazine "Man-of-the-Year" who was anything but popular in the Western World and the first salvo of a greedy U.S. ally about to make a really bad decision. These stories and more in the latest chapter of "Remembering David Horowitz" titled "**An Historical Presidential Oath.**"



The Messiah Before Jesus - TaborBlog

Check out the latest blog post by Dr. Tabor. In it, he says:

"This semester I am offering an advanced undergraduate/graduate seminar on "The Dead Sea Scrolls and Earliest Christianity." In preparation for this course I have been re-reading all of the published Dead Sea Scrolls as well as many of the secondary publications related thereto published over the past three decades. One of the more extraordinary results of the release and translation of the entire Dead Sea Scrolls corpus is our ability to sketch out a rather full and reliable portrait of the community that produced the scrolls, as well as a "life and times" of their otherwise unidentified and unnamed leader or Prophet, referred to in the Scrolls as the ***Teacher of Righteousness.***"

To read the rest of this article, [please click here.](#)

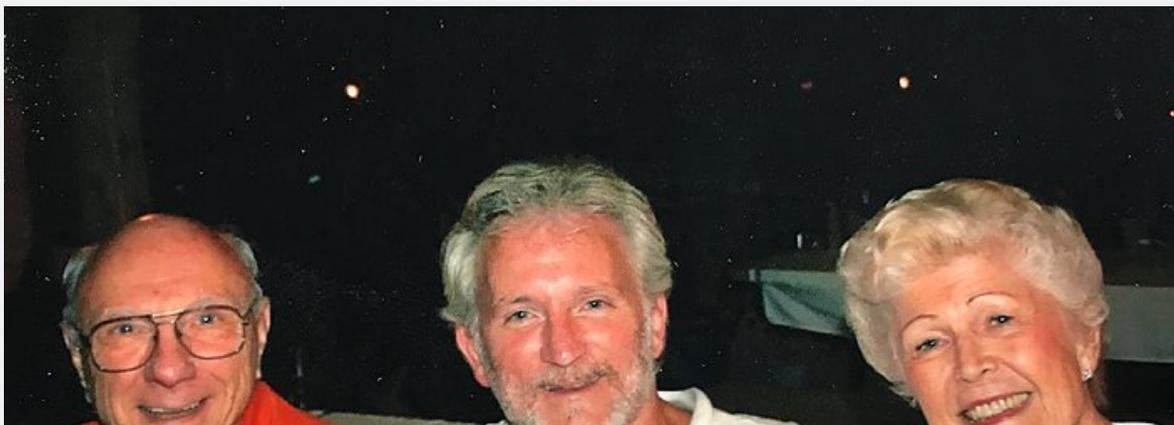




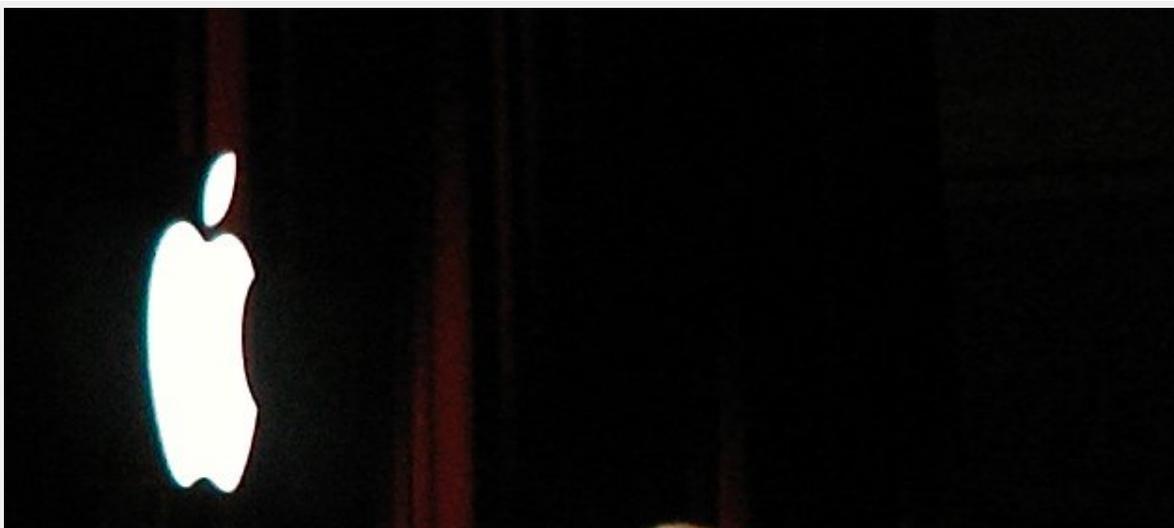
Photo of the Editor with Horace and Sue Holley from a Sukkot gathering in Louisiana in 2009.

In Memory of our Friend Horace Gibbs Holley Jr.

On September 21, 2018, our long time friend, Horace Gibbs Holley Jr. was gathered to his people. I was honored by his family to conduct the funeral service, during which I spoke on the strength of the man I knew and loved - a strength that was derived from the Hebrew Scriptures, and centered on his family.

You can read his obituary and leave a comment on the tribute wall at **[this link.](#)**

We will miss Horace dearly, and ask our United Israel friends to keep his wife Sue, their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren in your prayers.





Steve Jobs, The Torah, and Technology

Steve Jobs died on October 5, 2011. As an owner of a MacBook, an iPad Mini, an Apple watch, and an iPhone, I guess you could call me an Apple man. I love these wonderful devices. I recall when the first iPhone was released. The Torah reading was Balak, which tells the story of Balaam, the pagan

prophet who was hired to curse Israel but ended up blessing them instead.

I found it interesting then, and still do, that this was not the first technological advancement that was associated with this ancient Torah reading and the words of Balaam.

On Shavuot (Pentecost), in the year 1844, a similar advancement in technology took place. At 8:45 AM on Friday, May 24th, 1844, Samuel Morse sent a communication from Washington to Alfred Vail in Baltimore. The technology revolution of that time was called the **telegraph** – formed by two Greek words; **tele=far** and **graphy=to write**.

Interestingly, the technological advances brought about by the telegraph were also strangely connected to Torah reading Balak. The first message telegraphed by Morse were suggested to him by Annie Ellsworth, the daughter of a friend. The message was short, and taken from the King James Version of the Bible. The message said,

“What hath God wrought?”

Annie Ellsworth chose Balaam’s words to inaugurate the Technological Communication Age and then the latest “revolution” in Communication Technology was released on the day that these words were read again in synagogues throughout the world!

Is there something deeper in all of this? Is there a Divine hand at work? I am a fan of technology and continually seek new ways to utilize it in my efforts to teach the Bible. Steve Jobs and Apple have been very instrumental in providing innovative devices that enable me to reach the ends of the earth with my teachings. His work has been a blessing to me and to many others. Thinking of the genius today. May he rest in peace, and may his name be for a blessing.

Samuel Morse sent a final telegraph in June of 1871. It read,

“Greetings and thanks to the telegraph Fraternity throughout the world, Glory to God in the Highest, on earth, peace, goodwill to men.”

May we always find more ways to speak and communicate God’s prophetic word through modern technology! Indeed, what hath God wrought!

Click the icon below to be directed to this article on the United Israel Blog.





From the Torah

The Torah reading this week is Bereshit (Genesis 1:1-6:8). The prophetic readings associated with this Torah Reading is found in Isaiah 42:5-43:10.

On the Jewish Calendar this week: Shmini Atzeret - October 1st and Simchat Torah - October 2nd.

"Remember the Torah of my servant Moses, the statutes and judgments

that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel"
(*Malachi 4:4 English / Malachi 3:22 Hebrew*).

Facebook and YouTube Links for
Hebrew Torah Reading Team



Video Promo Tabor - Nichols Tour!



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Sukkot - Its Significance - Past, Present, and Future

In this class, Ross takes a look at the ancient biblical Festival of Sukkot and demonstrates from Scripture, its significance across the ages. This teaching was streamed live via our Facebook page from a sukkah at Biblical Tamar Park. He was joined by friends and fellow volunteers Mikhael and Sarah Chen, who in the beginning of the video sing songs of joy. To watch the video, click the Facebook icon below.

For more information on the Festival of Sukkot, click the green icon and read the article - Sukkot - An Ancient Festival & Joy to the World.

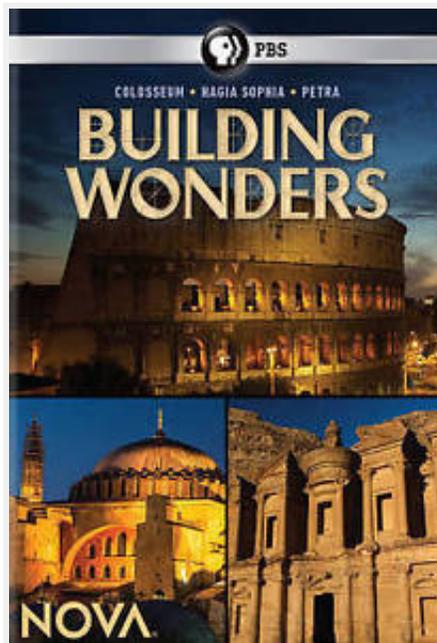


Featured Photo of the Week





The old Jujube tree at Biblical Tamar Park



Building Wonders

A Review by Jon Langberg

Publication

[United States] : Travel Video NOVA/PBS, [2015]

Author

Gary Glassman

Summary Coliseum: Roman death trap -- Petra: lost city of stone -- Hagia Sophia: Istanbul's ancient mystery.

In Building Wonders, Nova presents three groundbreaking shows that investigate engineering mysteries of the ancient world with the help of dramatic hands-on experiments. Modern architects use medieval tools to examine the Lost City of Petra in the middle of Jordan's desert, the vast Roman Coliseum, and Turkey's 1,500-year-old cathedral dome, Hagia Sophia.

Author's Review & Grade:

The published summary sounds extremely inviting and is. This is a first rate production that provides insights of the skills and capabilities of the ancient Designers, Engineers and Craftsmen. The presentation is very professional with fantastic background features and it is worth watching. The narrator is well connected to the settings and holds the listeners attention. I felt this was an excellent presentation of these incredible large scale projects. I almost wish I could have been involved but then I realize that as an older gentleman, 2018 on the Gregorian calendar is a much better time to be alive.

On a 1 to 5 scale, I give this documentary a 5 because if you are thinking about traveling to a specific area, a travel log should provide insights as to what you should look for. This is a good supplement as it provides more depth of the areas than just a walk through. In that regard it was a very successful video. I would watch it again, particularly since my wife and I will be visiting Jordan in November. I also found the engineering of the Roman Coliseum more fascinating now than when I explored it in Rome in the mid 1970s.

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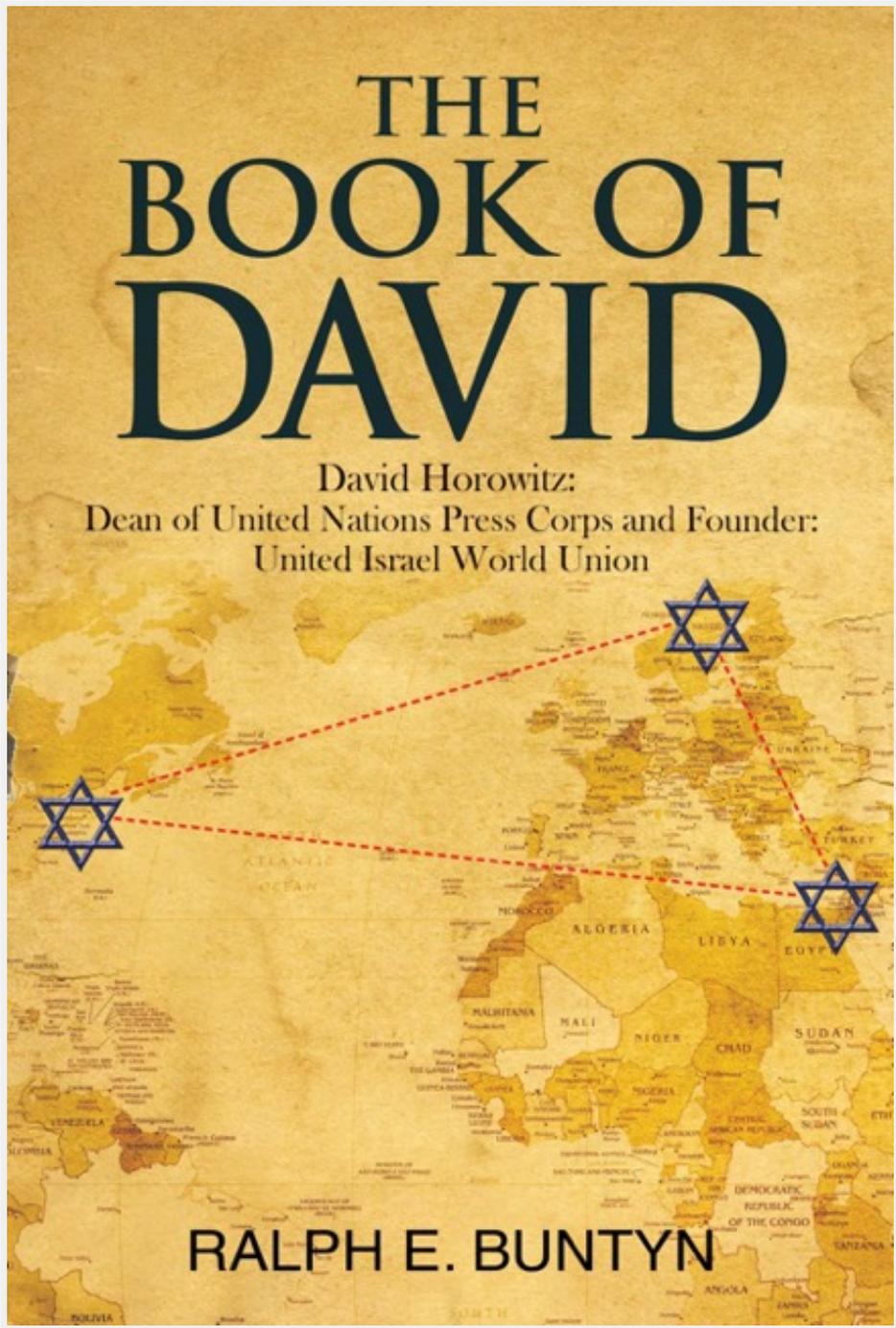
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The Book of David

**David Horowitz: Dean of United Nations Press Corps and
Founder: United Israel World Union**

by Ralph Buntyn

For 10 years, author Ralph Buntyn spent many hours with renowned United Nations correspondent and United Israel founder David Horowitz. They engaged in lengthy discussions about his foundational views drawn from his experience and unique vantage point in the two world bodies. ***The Book of David*** is based on his personal notes, extensive archival records and reflections from these conversations.

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