

Shapiro's "God's Elect" proves to be a thrilling read

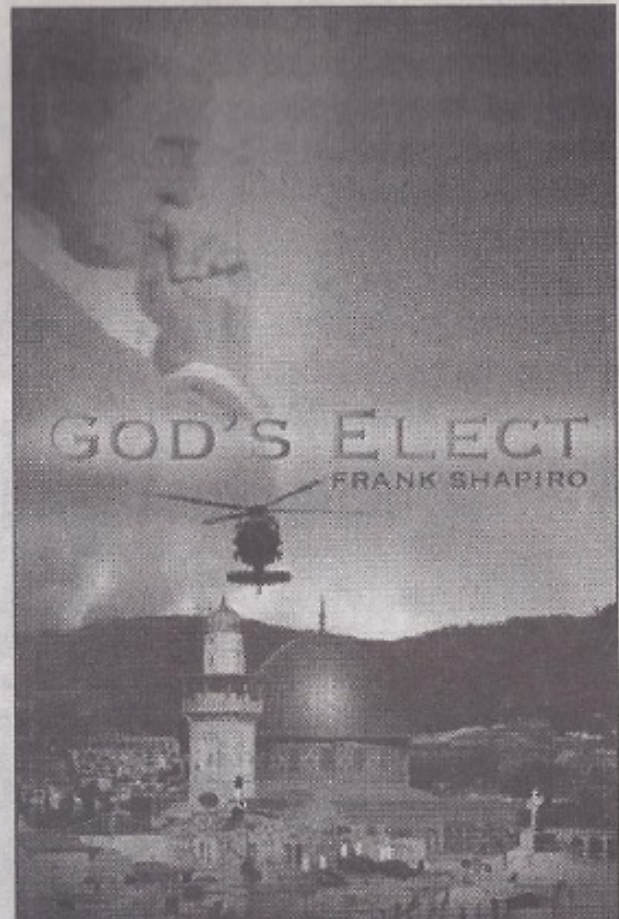
A book review by Davis Grandhom

On Jerusalem's Temple Mount, masses demonstrate for the rebuilding of Solomon's Temple, fired by rumours that the Temple Treasures, taken to Rome two thousand years previously by Titus, are making their way to Israel. But what is behind this newly elected Pope's statesmanlike gesture of releasing these holy vessels? Is this the trigger ushering in the triumph of Christianity over Islam and the hastening of the End of Days – the war of Gog and Magog?

Nothing is as it seems – not even the Pope. A fanatical sect has embedded itself in the heart of Christendom, and is determined to change the fate of the world. This is the backdrop for a clash of civilizations, led by the rise of religious fanaticism – both Christian and Muslim!

Menaced on all sides by hostile Islamic states and in fear of nuclear attack, the Israeli government has to decide whether to co-operate with the papacy – even as suspicions mount that each side is as diabolical and deceptive as the other.

Frank Shapiro, MA in History from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, is a former high school history teacher, and held the post of assistant researcher



at the Museum of the Diaspora, Tel Aviv. Commissioned by the Council of Zambian Jewry, Shapiro researched and wrote the history of Northern Rhodesian Jewry leading to the publication of *Zion in Africa* in 1999. His second book, *Haven in Africa*, published in 2002, reveals new and undisclosed facts on the Holocaust. He has contributed diverse historical articles in newspapers and journals. Born in London, he lives with his wife and family in Israel. *God's Elect* is his first novel.