

Israeli entrepreneur creates jewelry-sized full Bibles through nanotechnology

by [Michele Chabin](#) in the [April 13, 2016](#) issue

Nanotechnology has been revolutionizing science, medicine, and industry for decades, but it took until now for someone to turn it into a religious fashion statement.

Ami Bentov, an Israeli entrepreneur, came up with the idea of mass-producing silicon chips containing the entire Bible and selling them as pieces of religious jewelry.

Bentov, the founder of Jerusalem Nano Bible, partnered with TowerJazz, a semiconductor company, to create pin-sized nano versions of scripture. One contains all 24 books of the Hebrew Bible written in the original Hebrew. The other contains the entire New Testament in Greek. An English-language version is under development.

The Jerusalem Nano Bibles are made from silicon wafer, a thin slice of semiconductor material derived from sand and generally used in precision printing of circuit boards.

The company transforms a text file of the Bible into a photograph that is projected onto a five-by-five-millimeter wafer surface covered with a protective layer of silicon.

Each letter is 600 nanometers wide, far narrower than a strand of hair, whose width is roughly 100,000 nanometers.

Due to its size, the Nano Bible's text can be read only with an electron microscope, which uses a beam of electrons to magnify objects a thousandfold.

Bentov, a combat video journalist, said he developed the Jerusalem Nano Bible "as a way to generate some positive change in the world."

"For a long time I felt the need to create something that would help fight the evil and the ugliness I witnessed all around me," he said. "I wanted to leave something good for my kids and the next generations to come."

When Bentov saw how nanotechnology was used in the media production world, something clicked.

“I realized that I could use the same technology that was being used to make cellphones and computers, the same devices that are driving people apart these days, to create something that will bring people closer together: closer to their faith, to themselves, and to each other,” he said.

Bentov was raised in a Jewish family, and he fondly recalled the times as a boy when he went to synagogue with his father “to sing and pray with him.”

Today, he said, “I am teaching my children to love the Bible and to learn from it. Reading the Bible has made me a better person.”

In marketing the Jerusalem Nano Bible, the company has reached out to Jewish and Christian believers worldwide.

“Our jewelry line has sold by the thousands all over the world,” said Hadas Tzur, Jerusalem Nano Bible’s chief operating officer, of the company’s necklaces and lapel pins.

Jerusalem Nano Bibles are on display in several museums and in private collections, she added.

An unadorned nano Bible in a box costs \$25; lapel pins, \$40; and necklaces, including crosses and Stars of David with embedded nano Bibles, from \$90 to \$150.

The Bible chip is available for licensing to jewelry makers and others who wish to incorporate it into their original designs.

Marlena Ariel Geren, a Christian from Pennsylvania, has purchased both New and Old Testament Jerusalem Nano Bible products.

“To be able to carry this priceless treasure with you, on you, wherever you are, is simply amazing,” Geren said. — Religion News Service

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