



Beth Am COMMENTATOR

MIAMI, FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 2, 1973

Beth Am SUMMER PROGRAM

Eight Weeks Starting June
18 and Ending August 10

Full Day Activities for 5 to 14 Year olds, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily.

Half Day Program for pre-schoolers 3 to 5 year olds, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon daily.

FEES:

Full Day Program - \$250.00
Half Day Program - \$145.00

Fees include insurance, field trips, and all activities. A deposit of \$10.00 per child is required with your application, and is applicable to the tuition.

Beth Am Summer Program maintains an atmosphere of Jewish identification through healthy peer group association highlighted by a weekly Sabbath observance.

For information, call Rhoda Bernheimer at 667-5587 in the Temple office.

ARTS & CRAFTS SALE

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Pottery, candle making, sculpture, macrame, photography, ceramics, painting, etc.

Call Nina Meyers, 279-6070, for details

PURIM CARNIVAL

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Calendar Of Events

FAMILY SERVICE Friday, February 2, 7:30 p.m.
 TEACHERS' INSTITUTE OF U.A.H.C. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 2 and 3
NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL Saturday and Sunday, February 3 and 4
 BAFTY MEETING Sunday, February 4, 6:00 p.m.
 MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM Wednesday, February 7, all day
 BROTHERHOOD MEETING Wednesday, February 7, 7:30 p.m.
 TENTH GRADE DINNER Friday, February 9, 5:30 p.m.
 SERVICES Friday, February 9, 8:30 p.m.
 TENTH GRADE CONCLAVE Saturday, February 10, 3:30 p.m.
 YOUNG MARRIEDS BREAKFAST Sunday, February 11, 10:00 a.m.
 BETH AM SINGLES VALENTINE PARTY Sunday, Feb. 11, 8:00 p.m.
 BROTHERHOOD INTRAFaITH DINNER Tuesday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.
 SISTERHOOD RELIGIOUS SCHOOL LUNCHEON Feb. 15, 11 a.m.
 (At the Marriott)

RELIGIOUS SERVICES Friday, February 16, 8:30 p.m.
 NINTH GRADE ONEG SHABBAT Friday, February 16, 9:30 p.m.
 YOUNG MARRIEDS SQUARE DANCE Saturday, February 17
 BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST Sunday, February 18, 9:30 a.m.
 BAFTY MEETING Sunday, February 18, 6:00 p.m.
 SISTERHOOD LUNCHEON Wednesday, February 21, 11:00 a.m.
 RELIGIOUS SERVICES Friday, February 23, 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 7:30 p.m.

FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE

Rabbi Baumgard

**'The Cherry Tree
And The Thornbush'**

Class 1A and 3A of the Hebrew School will participate in the service

RELIGIOUS SERVICES



Class 1A will read a Hebrew prayer
Class 3A will sing a Hebrew song

The Fifth Grade Choir will sing
under the guidance of Harriet Potlock

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 11:15 a.m.

TORAH SERVICE



FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Know The Answer To Key '73

(Continued from last week)

A fact sheet, prepared in anticipation of Key '73 campaign of the Protestant churches to win people to Christianity.

WHAT DO JEWS BELIEVE ABOUT THE AFTER-LIFE? - At one time, the Pharisees, the moderate party in Judaism of 2,000 years ago, believed in the resurrection of the body in God's chosen time. It was they who gave the idea of the resurrection of the righteous to the world. In this sense, the early Christians were following a teaching of the Pharisees. They thought that if one righteous Jew (Jesus) was resurrected, then, there would be hope for all righteous Jews. Pharisaic Jews defined righteousness in terms of following the laws of the Torah and the Talmud. If you followed these laws, especially the laws of justice (mishpat) and righteousness (Tz'dakah), you would be worthy of the resurrection. Christians, beginning with the Jew, Paul, taught that if you believed in Jesus, you did not have to follow the laws of the Torah. They taught that Jesus was a substitute for the law. Some Christian leaders then said that it was faith in Jesus rather than right-living which earned for the individual the resurrection.

Orthodox Jews today still pray for the resurrection of the righteous. Some Orthodox Jews would interpret this to mean a bodily resurrection. Other Orthodox Jews would interpret this as a spiritual resurrection. Reform Jews simply do not believe in the resurrection of the body. We believe, generally speaking, in some kind of continued life after death. For the Pharisees, 2,000 years ago, the belief in the resurrection was a dogma, that is, central to their faith. There was no sharply defined idea of "heaven" or "hell." These were not part of the Orthodox dogma then, nor are they dogma to Orthodox Jews today.

Reform Jews do not conceive of physical places called "heaven" or "hell." We believe that we return to the God who made us. We do not concern ourselves with the "how." This is God's problem, we say. Our emphasis is on how we conduct ourselves in this world. It is here that we have the opportunity to influence events critically. This is why it is said that Judaism is more this-worldly oriented, and Christianity is more other-worldly oriented. To the extent that Christianity conforms to our emphasis on righteousness in this world, it leans more heavily on its Jewish origins. To the extent that Christianity places more emphasis on the next world, it deviates from basic Judaism.

SUMMARY OF POINTS FROM THE BIBLE - Our Bible is the story of a developing religion, which is still growing and changing today, although it is based on certain unchanging central principles. At one time, Jews believed, like all the peoples around them, that the sacrifice of animals, and the communion meal, which accompanied the sacrifice, was a way to worship God. The Prophets led us boldly past this practice. They emphasized justice, love, mercy as deeds of worship. They taught that the succeeding generations were not responsible for the sins of the fathers, that each person has his own unique relationship to God.

Even in Orthodox Judaism, there is no dogma about hell. Reform Jews do not believe in hell. We teach, as Job* did, that one should do good, for its own sake, not because of a reward in the after-life. We teach that God is good and forgiving, even to those who have sinned, for all of us sin, and noone is completely good.

How then are we to be saved? Judaism teaches that mankind must save itself through developing the Good Society on earth. This society can be attained if we all act as the Bible teaches us to act. As we work towards the Good Society, we will need dedicated individuals and dedicated groups. Moses and the Prophets asked us to be such a dedicated group, to be the leaders in the search for this better world. A people which chooses to dedicate itself is a chosen group. The prophet Amos taught that "chosenness" does not bring special awards, but it does bring special responsibility and extra duties. Jews are asked to accept these responsibilities. Will we be a "light to the nations" as Isaiah asks? Will we "feed the hungry and clothe the naked," "release the imprisoned?" The answer lies with you.

*The Book of Job - Job thought he should be rewarded for his good deeds with materialistic rewards. His friends taught him that one should do good for its own sake, not for rewards.

Joan's Gems

By JOAN SCHWARTZMAN

Get well wishes to the following Beth Amites: Amy Cynamon, Lawrence Marks, Victor Eskenas, Morris Odessky, Irene Nicholas, Louis Kirk, Vickie Orbach, Brian Firtell. . . . Congratulations to Charles and Ruth Kruglick, upon the marriage of their daughter, Karen, to Richard Wynne. . . . Mazel tov to David and Rhoda Welt upon the marriage of their son, Glenn, to Linda Evans. . . . Kudos to Jeffrey Heier, who has been elected president of the seventh grade at South Miami Junior High School. . . . Congratulations to Sam and Edith Schneider upon the graduation of their daughter, Naomi, with a B. S. degree in Art Education from State University in Buffalo, New York.

Congratulations to Ruth Marcus upon her forthcoming marriage to Steven Shere. . . . Get well wishes are in order for Beth Amites Sheila Manning, Stephen Kanzer, Frances Reisberg, Lila Simons, and Barbara Weiner. . . . Your reporter has just heard that Hedy Carlin has been "under the weather" and we surely hope that she is now up and about feeling much better. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bieley received a personal invitation to the inauguration of President Richard Nixon. . . . By the way, your reporter was among the umpteen hundreds of people at Sisterhood's Las Vegas night. What a blast was had by all! The festivities were just fun (especially if you won) and the gifts were just grand. Our own Beth Am Sisterhood ladies and their men sure made wonderful hosts and hostesses. Congratulations to all those wonderful people who made this fund raising event spectacular. A special thank you to Marlene Housman who almost single handed pulled off one of the most successful affairs for Sisterhood.

B'nai Mitzvah

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3
11:15 a.m.



Charles, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Bloom