



Beth Am Commentator

September 17, 1976

Miami, Florida

RELIGIOUS SERVICE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 8:30 p.m., RABBI BAUMGARD

"Learning How To Meditate"

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 11:15 a.m., TORAH SERVICE



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

How To Celebrate The High Holidays

When I was a boy, I observed that the whole atmosphere of my home changed on the High Holidays. Mother cleaned the house thoroughly, took out her finest tablecloth and napkins and placed her finest dishes. We were preparing for the pre-Rosh Hashana dinner. We knew it was a special occasion. The table told us so.

My father came home early from work. He shaved (although he had shaved in the morning), bathed, put on a new suit. I knew it was a special occasion. My father, who never dressed up, looked super. We ate early. We walked to the synagogue, a long distance. Walking with us were other families, equally well dressed and equally solemn. One could feel the weight of this "different" occasion. There was almost something mysterious about it. It was the "Holy" day.

It did not matter that I could not understand the Rabbi's sermon (it was given in Yiddish). It did not matter that I could not translate the prayers (entirely in Hebrew). I knew it was a grand and special occasion. It was the atmosphere that made this plain.

The task for modern Jews is to try to create a similar mood of solemnity, perhaps of mystery, of reverence. This is more difficult for us to do than for our parents, because we hold very little to be reverent or mysterious, but if we want to impress our children, we have to think about this and work at it. There is room for creativity in this area.

A child is ever mindful of the manner in which a parent does something. He senses whether synagogue attendance is really important to the parent, whether the holiday is really a time for serious thinking or not. It is wise, then, to participate in the services with a positive view, and to bring your children to the service with you. Beth Am has a wide range of services which make it possible for children of all ages to attend; for example, most of our adult services are repeated in a "Family" service to which parents may bring children fifth grade and over (this is to say, children who can get something out of an adult service). There are "Children's Services" for children under that age, which take just 45 minutes in all.

The holidays are a time for thinking seriously about the perspective of life that we call Judaism. It is a time for discussing our main teachings, for trying to come closer to them, so that one can project these attitudes in his real life. When your children hear you talking about these teachings (in other than a negative and derogatory fashion), when they know you are searching and affirming, they are impressed in significant fashion. Below this statement, you will find several things: a) a list of the basic teachings of Judaism through the ages which

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Sisterhood's Opening Luncheon

September 15 Is A Starring Event

Sisterhood's glittering opening luncheon and fashion show, "We're Gonna Make You A Star," the opening event of the "Year of the Star on Kendall Drive" will be held Wednesday, September 15, 9:30 a.m., in the Social Hall.

Featuring an elegant Jordan Marsh fashion show, the clothes, music, scenery and table decorations are all cued to the same theme. Even the foods will be named for, and fit for, famous stars.

The luncheon is free to paid-up Sisterhood members! So, send in your membership dues now. Avoid long lines at the luncheon. This is a reservations only affair. Call today to Arlene Minor, 271-6958, Millie Infeld, 238-2238, or the Temple office, 667-5587.

S'lichot Services, Philharmonic Quartet September 18 At 9:30 P. M.

A September concert and S'lichot Services program will be held Saturday night, September 18, 9:30 p.m., in the Social Hall.

We are privileged to have the String Quartet of the Miami Philharmonic Orchestra to play in concert preceding the S'lichot services. They will present a most enjoyable selection of music. Al Leibert will act as emcee for the evening.

S'lichot prayers are recited the Saturday before Rosh Hashana. If you have never attended a S'lichot Service, you will be awed by the mysticism, the depth of feeling engendered. Refreshments will be served.

High Holiday Admission Cards Have Been Mailed To All Registered Members

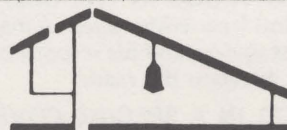
ROSH HASHANA SERVICES

FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 24

6:30 p.m. Family Adult Service, Rabbi Chefitz speaking
9:00 p.m. Adults Only, Rabbi Baumgard speaking

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

9:30 a.m. Adults Only, Rabbi Baumgard speaking
1:30 p.m. Children's Service, Rabbi Chefitz speaking
3:30 p.m. Family Adult Service, Rabbi Baumgard speaking



The Committee Of 100

The Committee of 100 is happy to welcome to their ranks the following families:

Dr. David and Marian Katzin
Gerald and Carol Lesnik
Larry and Beverly Marks

The following member families have voluntarily REJOINED the Committee of 100 for 1976-77:

Norman and Irma Braman
Stephen and Anna Carner
Richard and Rosalind Pallot
Jeffrey and Elayne Wershil

HOW TO CELEBRATE THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

(Continued from Page 1)

ought to be the center of your concern through the ten day holiday period; b) the blessings recited at home over the candles, wine, and bread. The sincerity and mood that you bring to these will be noted by sensitive children.

Do the High Holidays really mean something important? You have a great deal to do with the answer to that question.

BASIC JEWISH IDEAS

While Judaism is the evolving and changing religious expression of the Jewish people, Jews have always believed a basic core in all ages. Certainly, the core of our belief as understood by Reform Judaism is as follows:

1. GOD IS ONE--that is, there is one plan and purpose for the universe; there are no conflicting wills; no good god competing with a devil; nor are there greater and lesser gods or divine beings.

2. THE NATURE OF THIS GOD IS TO BE UNDERSTOOD IN TERMS OF CREATION, LAW, JUSTICE, MERCY, FORGIVENESS, LOVE--that is, He is not blind force, acting on sudden whim, nor is He angry and punitive (this understanding of the nature of God evolved over thousands of years and is open to new insights). God is not to be understood in terms of human powers or definitions and is beyond man's full comprehension.

3. THERE IS A TORAH, A MORAL LAW, UNDERGIRDING THE UNIVERSE, AND MAN'S HAPPINESS AND THE STABILITY OF SOCIETY DEPEND ON THE LEARNING AND OBSERVANCE OF THIS LAW.

4. A MAN'S RELIGIOSITY IS TO BE DEDUCED FROM HIS ACTIONS, NOT FROM HIS STATED BELIEFS. (CONDUCT, NOT PROFESSED FAITH, IS THE CRITICAL MATTER).

5. MAN IS BORN WITH THE POTENTIAL TO BE GOOD OR EVIL DEPENDING UPON HIS OWN CHOICE TO FOLLOW THE MORAL LAW. He is not born in "original sin," nor need he be mystically or miraculously "saved" from this "sin." Hence, the notion of the growth and improvement in the character of man by creating the good society becomes possible.

6. THIS WORLD IS THE CENTER OF MAN'S EXISTENCE. Whatever the "world to come" may be, man must correct the evil in this world. "It is not incumbent upon him to finish the task, but neither is he free to neglect it."

7. MEN MUST STRIVE TOWARDS A MESSIANIC DAY, WHEN ALL MEN SHALL LIVE IN PEACE AND HARMONY. There is a meaningful future ahead which men must strive to achieve with God's help. There is a part of the Messiah in all of us, and we must bring the pieces together to create "God's Kingdom."

8. MAN IS A CO-PARTNER WITH GOD IN THE CREATION THAT KNOWS NO END. God frequently relies on man to serve as His agent, and man must understand his responsibility. "Where there are no men . . . be thou the man."

9. JEWS ARE BOUND TO GOD IN A SPECIAL COVENANT OR AGREEMENT. Since they were the first to proclaim the idea of one God and one mankind, since they were the first to proclaim the moral law, they have a special responsibility to be exemplary in character and to teach these ideas, by example, to the world.

AT THE FESTIVAL MEAL INTRODUCING THE ROSH HASHANA HOLIDAY, FRIDAY, SEPT. 24

MOTHER KINDLES THE LIGHTS

Bah-ruch Ah-tah Ah-doh-nai El-loh-hay-noo Meh-lech Ha-
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Yizkor Service 'Book Of Memorial'

To remember your loved ones, have their names listed in our "Book of Memorial" which will be distributed at our Yizkor Service on Monday, October 4. Fill in the form below and mail to the Temple office. As a guide, may we suggest the following:

Tree of Life	\$500.00
Shelf of Library Books	\$100.00
Memorial Plaque	\$250.00
Five Prayer Books	\$ 25.00
One Library Book	\$ 10.00

Please include the following names in the "Book of Memorial." I have circled the item I wish dedicated.

_____ Contribution _____

Signed _____ Telephone _____

B'nai

Mitzvah



Saturday
September 18
11:15 a.m.



Craig, son of
Dr. and Mrs. Henry Gelband
Monica, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rawicz

oh-lahm Ah-sheh Ki-di-shah-noo B'mits-voh-tahv V'tsi-vah-nu L'hahd-lik Nare Shel Sha-bat V'Yom Ha-zi-kah-rohn Hah-zeh.

(All together): We look upon these candles as the symbol of a courageous past and a glorious future. We understand that our task as Jews is to help bring the light of justice and peace into the world.

FATHER BLESSES THE WINE

Bah-ruch Ah-tah Ah-doh-nai Eh-loh-hay-noo Meh-lech Ha-oh-lahm Bo-ray P'ree Ha-gah-fen.

(All together): We look upon this wine as a symbol of God's creative power. As we drink it, we dedicate ourselves to join Him in bringing love and kindness to the world.

BLESS THE BREAD TOGETHER

Bah-ruch Ah-tah Ah-doh-nai Eh-loh-hay-noo Meh-lech Ha-oh-lahm Ha-moh-tsee Leh-chem Min Ha-ah-rets.

As we eat this food, may we be strengthened to help others not as fortunate as we are.

(Break a slice of bread and eat all from the same slice.)

ALL TOGETHER

Bah-ruch Ah-tah Ah-doh-nai Eh-loh-hay-noo Meh-lech Ha-oh-lahm Sheh-heh-cheh-yah-nu V'ki-mah-noo V'he-gi-yah-noo Laz-man Ha-zeh.

We give thanks to the God who has enabled us to rejoice on this occasion.