



RELIGIOUS SERVICE, Friday, March 28, 8:30 p.m.
RABBI MITCHELL CHEFITZ
"THE DRAFT - COMING IN FROM THE COLD"

TORAH SERVICE, Saturday, March 29th, 11:15 a.m.

Beth Am Commentator

March 28, 1980

Miami, Florida

A Great Adult Studies Program Attracts Great Teachers

Rabbi Aaron B. Ilson

Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Sinai of Pittsburgh, well known not only as a rabbinic scholar, but also as a counsellor of great understanding and compassion. His expertise is a synthesis of the development of Jewish belief and ritual with the modern psychological framework. Explore this development with him, and project a model for the future.

Four Wednesdays, beginning April 16, 8-10 PM, Room 26.

Rabbi Jerome Gurland

A master of the Midrash and Commentaries, and Rabbi Chefitz' teacher and guide throughout his rabbinic training. Rabbi Gurland will compare rabbinic and Islamic texts. Can you think of a text course more relevant than this?

Four Tuesdays beginning April 22, 8-10 PM, Room 26.

Lenore Kipper

Hundreds of us already know Lenore to be a master teacher. She really can teach HEBREW FROM SCRATCH IN ONLY FOUR WEEKS! Her work is a labor of love, and her classes fill early.

Four Thursdays, beginning April 17, 8-10 PM, Room 24. There is no fee for any of these courses, but please register in advance by calling the Temple office.

Beth Am Adopts Two "Boat People" Families Help Needed In Many Ways

Iris Franco, Chairperson of our Social Action Committee, reports that Beth Am has adopted two "Boat People" families. Each family consists of a husband and wife, and they have already arrived in Miami. They were met at the plane, each wearing all of his or her earthly belongings (four shirts, etc.).

The families are Mr. and Mrs. Boua Liang and Mr. and Mrs. Boua Sene Thisouk. We have obtained temporary housing for them and are now seeking two main things for them: first, employment, and secondly, housing near the area of employment. The families are anxious for schooling and for work. They speak no English. They come from Laos, directly from a camp in Thailand. Their interpreter is named Am Thong Goldberg.

Iris is anxious to help obtain a job for them. Any volunteers? And an apartment? And household furnishings. Some money is needed (much of the basic funds is supplied through Federation and the U.S. Government). We need about a \$1,000. Please drop a card now to Iris Franco, if you want to help in some way, c/o the Temple, 5950 No. Kendall Dr., Miami, 33156.

School Information

No Religious School..... April 5, 6, 7, 12, 13
No Monday Night School March 31, April 7
No Hebrew School March 31, April 2, 7
No Day School..... March 31 through April 7

Passover Begins Monday Night, March 31st Main Service Tuesday Morning, April 1st

Rabbi Baumgard recommends that children be kept home from public school on Tuesday, April 1st, in honor of the first day of Passover. Beth Am will observe the holiday with a service on Tuesday morning, April 1st at 10 o'clock. Parents and children are encouraged to be in attendance.

Passover begins on Monday evening, March 31st, at sundown. There will be a brief Minyan service at the Temple at 6:00 p.m. Home Seders are held on this evening. No Jew should be absent from a Seder on this night. Abbreviated Passover Haggadahs authored by Rabbi Baumgard are available at the Temple to help you in the conduct of the Seder.

Passover Procedures in the Home

LIGHT CANDLES - Sundown (or when the family is together)

Monday, March 31st (usually by the mother)

Bah-ruch Ah-tah Ah-do-nai Elo-hay-nu Meh-lech Ha-oh-lam Ah-sheh Kid-shah-nu Ba-mitz-to-tav Vah-tzi-vah-nu Leh-had-lik Nare Shel Pesach.

Thanks be to thee, creator of the universe, author of freedom, who asks us to glorify ourselves by observing the festival of freedom.

As we think of the time when we were slaves in Egypt, may we dedicate ourselves to rid ourselves of our present slavery to materialism; may we also resolve to help others become free.

FAMILY BLESSING — (usually by father)

"Oh Lord, bless these, our children. Give them your love, even as we seek to give them our love. Encourage them to be kind and good, even as we seek to lead them to this direction. Help us to bind our family together and help us to share our blessings with those about us."

Bah-ruch Ah-tah Ah-do-nai El-oh-hay-nu Melech Ha-oh-lam She-heh-cheh-ya-nu V'ki-mah-nu V'hi-gi-ah-nu Lah-Z'man Ha-zeh.

thanks to you, Oh Lord our God, who has given us life and enabled us to celebrate this wonderful occasion. (Hugs and kisses are appropriate at this time).

The blessing over the wine and the Matzah is said during the seder. See the abbreviated Haggadah by Rabbi Baumgard.

Passover Information

PASSOVER BEGINS - Monday night, March 31st, Sundown

Light candles, Holiday introductory prayers

Brief Minyan Service at the Temple, at 6 p.m.

Conduct Home Seder. (Haggadahs available at office.)

MAIN PASSOVER SERVICE - Tuesday, April 1st, 10 a.m.

Public School Holiday for Jewish Children

Full Holiday for Adults

TEMPLE SEDER - Social Hall, Tuesday, April 1st, 6:00 p.m.

(Reservations Limited)

CONCLUDING PASSOVER SERVICE - Monday, April 7th, 10 a.m.

Yizkor, Memorial Service

This is the second major day of Passover.

A full holiday is the tradition.

TEMPLE OFFICE CLOSED TUESDAY APRIL 1, AND MONDAY APRIL 7.



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

ON THE MODERN SEXUAL SCENE

(conclusion)

The past few columns have been devoted to a review of the sex scene in the light of Jewish values. Let us be clear, we are not talking about the kind of sexual practice which qualifies one for heaven or hell. We have been talking about mature self-fulfillment, about what makes for a healthy society, about what makes for a continuing Jewish community.

What two consenting adults do in the privacy of a bedroom is, of course, their privilege which no one can deny them, but it is also true that just as the performance of a deed of charity or theft makes it easier for the doer to repeat that kind of deed, just as what we do in any other sphere helps to mold our character and future, so our sexual exploits, as surely, mold our character and future. In other words, one cannot become a sexual bum and not become a bum in one's general character. As the Talmud teaches, "The performance of a deed is its own reward," i.e., the deed leaves its mark on our character.

We are talking of the effect of habits on our character. We become what we do. This is the educational psychology taught by Jewish teachers over the ages - it has many modern supporters.

The goal in the Jewish community is to become a loving partner of a mate, each supporting and fulfilling the other. The goal is to create a home with children which is a base in which Judaism is to be practiced, with Sabbath, Festival and holiday observances, and in which Jewish values are to be strengthened. The Jewish home has been called "the small sanctuary" with husband and wife as parents and partners guarding and observing Jewish ceremony and morality.

What about those who are divorced and those who have never been married? Are there the same standards for older singles as for younger singles? We could write a book on each of these questions. We have said that each situation has its own nuances and special aspects. Obviously, there must be a balance between individual needs, the needs of society and the needs of the Jewish community. Does a divorced person (or a single person) have the right to sleep with a married person? This is adultery. Does a divorced (or a single) person have to become a sexual recluse? Bearing in mind what we have said about each deed making a mark on one's character, and bearing in mind what we have said about the goal being marriage, we still can say that Judaism has never advocated sexual abstinence for its own sake.

Nothing that we have said is an advocacy of monkhood or nunhood. Nonetheless, it is false to say that one's sexual practice as a single affects only oneself; it affects your children (if you are divorced) and society in general. Sexual responsibility is as unavoidable as other kinds of responsibility, and perhaps more so.

THE CRITICAL AGE

We all know that it is the young who feel the strongest sex drives. It is they who are the most fit to assure the future of the Jewish community by having children. Understandably, it is precisely the young who are most drawn to the new sexual freedom. There is a clear relation between the new sexual freedom and the sharply declining rate of Jewish children. If the Jewish community wishes to survive, it has no choice but to educate the young to marry at a state of life which will enable them to have the number of children which will at least maintain the present number of Jews (already a tiny fraction of the world's population); it goes without saying that we must educate our children to marry a spouse who will be committed to help him/her raise Jewish children.

The question our generation of American Jews faces is - are liberal, highly educated Jews capable of that kind of disengagement from common practice that will enable the Jewish people to survive? In short, are we prepared to become highly conservative with respect to sexual freedom? To give up adventurous sexual pleasures for relatively early marriage?

In brief, do we, as Jews, have the will to survive - or will we die

ARE YOU STILL WATCHING THIS SPACE?

(Don't forget to save May 3rd!)



Pictured is Rabbi Baumgard with a group of high school youngsters invited to the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati for a national conference of young Jews from around the country called to discuss national and world Jewish problems. Included from left to right are Stuart Sheldon, Charles Kaiser, Michael Snyder, Jackie Genet, the Rabbi, Elisa Lieberman, Michael Hellinger, Jeffrey Schwartz, and Howard Wolofsky. Absent from the photo is Mathew Silverstein. Beth Am is sending the largest delegation in the country.

"Ideas Through Books" Meeting Notice

- BOOK:** "SOPHIE'S CHOICE" by William Styron
- REVIEWER:** BLANCHE BRASS, Teacher, Writer, Lawyer
- DATE:** Thursday, March 27, 9:30 a.m. or 8:00 p.m. (Coffee first, review one-half hour later)
- PLACE:**
 - Morning:** Home of Suzanne and Bert Schild
12370 S.W. 64 Avenue
R.S.V.P. Darlene, 238-0902 - mornings
 - Evening:** Home of Mrs. Barbara Moret
6804 S.W. 145 Terrace
R.S.V.P. 238-6844 - evenings

SISTERHOOD PLAY, APRIL 16th

PLAY FOR LIVING SERIES

"A CHOICE TO MAKE!"

RESERVE THE DATE

APRIL 16th, 1980 - 8 P.M.

B'Nai Mitzvah

Saturday, March 29
11:15 a.m.



Jay Eric, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Gould



Philip, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Jacobson

in an orgy of "La Dolce Vita," in a hysteria of orgasmic convulsions?

To put it positively - do we still have enough control of our sexual passions to use them in a way which makes for the survival of our people?