

FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE, Friday, February 7, 1986, 7:30 p.m.

Rabbi Herbert M. Baumgard
"WHAT MAKES A PERSON GREAT?"

CONGREGATIONAL TORAH SERVICE

Saturday, February 8th, 11:15 a.m.
Torah Portion: Mishpatim, Ex. 21:1-24:18

Beth Am Commentator

5950 North Kendall Drive, Miami, Florida 33156
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Breakfast Forum Discusses Jews in South Africa On Sunday, February 16th

"THE DILEMMA OF THE JEWS-AND OTHERS-IN SOUTH AFRICA" will be the topic of discussion at the next Brotherhood Breakfast Forum on Sunday morning, Feb. 16th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Lounge. Speaker will be Rabbi Samuel Rudy, spiritual leader of Temple Or Olom on Miami. Rabbi Rudy was a Principal of the Judaica Schools of Johannesburg for over forty years and is an outstanding educator.

The turmoil in present day South Africa brought on by the repressive actions of the government is having a fearful affect on its white population. Many of the whites, including Jewish families, are emigrating to Europe and Australia for fear of confiscation of their rights and properties. To them, it seems a matter of time before the black population will attain greater political rights. To the Jewish population and other white people, the big question is what their fate would be for staying on.

Rabbi Rudy has spent many years in South Africa both as an observer and as an active participant in his community's activities. His thoughts and insights are born of a great understanding of the people involved. He will express his views of today's events in South Africa and will relate to us from his wide experiences what he predicts might be the outcome of the present crisis.

Admission to this all-you-can-eat Brotherhood Breakfast Forum is \$3 for Brotherhood members and \$3.50 for all non-members. Everybody is invited.

Past Presidents of Beth Am Honored at Brunch, Sunday, February 23rd

In appreciation for their contributions to the building of Beth Am and to the welfare of the Miami community, our congregation will honor its Past Presidents at a Brunch to be held on Sunday, February 23rd, at 10:00 am in Suchman Social Hall.

The Brunch in behalf of Israel Bonds will feature as speaker Mr. Wolf Blitzer who is the Washington Correspondent for the Jerusalem Post. He has been covering the Washington policy scene for many years. He has recently published a book, entitled, "Between Washington and Jerusalem, the United States Relationship with Israel". He is frequently a guest on national news programs. While it is hoped that the Brunch will produce a number of bond purchases, the committee, Chaired by Carlos Dominquenz, hopes that a large number of our members will turn out to honor our Past Presidents, whether they intend to purchase a bond or not. Names will not be called.

Those serving on the Presidents Brunch Committee include, Al and Jackie Rose, co-chairpersons, Evelyn Goodman, Cliff and Betty Suchman, Sam and Shirley Steen, Gary and Barbara Cohen, Dr. Reuben and Selma Sorkin, Jay and Ruth Leshaw, Robert and Francine Berrin, Al and Jean Leibert.

Please mark this date on your calendar. It is expected to be a festive occasion.

**Singing Groups GARAGE SALE,
Sunday February 9th**



Ivan Dominguez



Laurel Susman

Ivan Dominguez New President of S.E.F.T.Y. Laurel Susman New Secretary of S.E.F.T.Y.

At this year's winter regional convention for youth held in Atlanta, two members of B.A.F.T.Y. (Beth Am Federation of Temple Youth) received Regional Board positions. Ivan Dominguez was elected President of S.E.F.T.Y. (Southeast Federation of Temple Youth). Ivan has been active in the Beth Am Youth Group for several years. He is presently Kavod Chairman, seeing to it that the Group fulfills the requirements necessary to receive this National Award. He was Co-Chairman of the S.E.F.T.Y. Convention held in November at Beth Am.

Laurel Susman was elected Secretary of S.E.F.T.Y. She also has been an active member of the senior Youth Group. Laurel is presently Chaplain of B.A.F.T.Y. and was the Coordinator of the S.E.F.T.Y. convention held at Beth Am.

We are very proud to have these two members on the S.E.F.T.Y. Regional Board. Michael Goodman, former President of B.A.F.T.Y. is presently District Vice President (elected previously) and is also on the Board. It is a very big honor to have three members of our youth group in such high positions. Congratulations, Laurel and Ivan - we know you will do a great job!

Birthday Blessings at Family Service Feb. 7th

Parents are urged to call in the names of their children to the Temple Office if they celebrate their birthdays during the month of February. Bring your children to the Family Service this Friday night, February 7th, at 7:30 p.m. for their special blessing.

Marvis Martin, Soprano

"An Afternoon of Music"

Sunday, February 16th, at 4 p.m.

in the Temple Sanctuary

Registration Now Open

For Beth Am Pre-School and Day School

2½ Years thru 6th Grade

For fall of 1986

Call School Office: 665-6228



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Part Four of a Series
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 ISAIAH

(Follow the references in your Bible for deeper enrichment. References are to chapter and verse in the Book of Isaiah.)

The Classical or Literary Prophets reigned primarily during the time of the divided kingdom. When Solomon died, his son threatened to be too severe, and the southern tribes created the kingdom of Judah while the northern tribes retained the name Israel. Isaiah (the first prophet bearing that name) served from about 740 BCE. The unified nation was not a great military power. The divided nations became pawns in the struggles of the great military nations, Babylonia, Egypt, and Assyria. The prophets did not interpret international events in terms of the power struggle between the nations. For them the international problems were but a reflection of the internal domestic problems. A morally strong Israel (or Judah), they never doubted, would defeat its international rivals. A morally corrupt Israel would be conquered by its powerful enemies.

Like Amos, Isaiah attacked the great show of religion in his time as being hypocritical (1: 11-17). He denounced the elaborate sacrificial worship and said in God's name, "I cannot endure iniquity along with the solemn assembly" (v. 13). He admonished the people to "Seek justice, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow" (v. 17).

How would the nation be able to oppose their mightier adversaries? "If you follow the ancient law, You will eat the good of the land, But if you rebel, You will be devoured by the sword (v. 19,20). Isaiah spoke of the need to purge existing rulers, "I will purge away the dross... and will restore your judges as of old...; Then shall you be called the city of righteousness" (v. 25,26).

The God of Isaiah was not just the God of Israel. He was the God of all nations. What He desired was international peace. It is from Isaiah that we get the famous prophecy that adorns the Isaiah Wall at the United Nations in New York: "And He shall judge between the nations... And they shall beat their swords into plows, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war any more" (2: 4)!

Like the other prophets, Isaiah is greatly concerned about the growing cosmopolitan attitude towards religion, as in our own day. This relaxed attitude led to the infiltration of other religions into Israelite practice. Idols began to appear in many Israelite homes. The problem with idols was that they represented other gods and associated with them were other life-styles. The God of Israel was the only one associated with a moral law (a Torah).

Like Amos, Isaiah criticized the very leaders of the people. "The Lord will enter into judgment with the elders (political advisors) of His people, and the princes thereof: " 'It is you that have eaten up the vineyard; The spoil of the poor is in your houses; What mean you that you crush My people, And grind the face of the poor?', declares Him who is the God of the stars." (3: 4.15).

Isaiah criticizes the fashion oriented women who have no concern for the poor, "who walk with stretched-forth necks, And wanton eyes, ...mincing as they go," (3: 16-17). When the reaction to injustice occurs, declares the prophet, these wealthy women will be stripped of their finery and suffer grievously (3: 18-26) because of their indifference.

The business men who were concerned only with profit were not spared the prophet's lash. He declared, "Woe unto them that join house to house and field to field, Til there be no room for others, and the wealthy dwell all alone" (5: 8). The problem said the prophet is that those who live only to amass wealth "regard not the work of the Lord" (5: 12).

The prophet bemoans the decline of the old value system. "Woe unto them that call evil good, And good evil: That change darkness into light, And light into darkness... Woe unto them that are wise in

There will be a special presentation explaining the 1986 Program of our Regional Camp, Camp Coleman, in the Social Hall on February 19, at 7:30 p.m. A special slide presentation and remarks by the Camp Director, Allan F. Solomon, will hilite the evening. The presentation is geared towards children between the ages of 7-15 years, their parents & friends. The 1986 Program format has been changed with many new and exciting variations and will be explained in full. If your child is enrolled at Camp Coleman or if you are considering a camp for your children, you are encouraged to attend this special presentation.


Day School Doings...

Have you visited our Temple library lately? Thanks to the wonderful work done by our Temple librarians, Margot Berman and Susan Korschun, the students of Beth Am Day School can now see an impressive time line showing the year each child's family arrived in the United States and noting the country from which they travelled, and their port of entry into America. The time line is beautiful to see and interesting to read.

Not only is Mrs. Berman involved in the time line, but she is also conducting a Junior Great Books workshop with our sixth graders, discussing each book and helping the children to get the most out of great literature.

In addition, Day School students have been visiting the Center for Fine Arts to view the Picasso exhibit, the Museum of Science for the Dinosaur exhibit and Planet Ocean for the archeological exhibit.

The Day School students are continuing to be on the look-out for space in which to show their creative works, so please give our office a call (665-6228) if you or your office can accommodate us. We would certainly appreciate it!

Bar Mitzvah	Saturday, February 8
11:15 a.m.	
	
Jon Madorsky, son of Dr. Martin L. Madorsky and Mrs. Peggy Madorsky Hollander	

their own eyes..." (5: 20,21). Does this not sound like a description of our own time when so many have substituted their own personal standards for what used to be a commonly accepted moral system? The prophet wants the people, high and low, to know that God will act to reinstate justice (5: 25). He will employ the armies of foreign nations to punish His own people who seem unable to establish the just system He has ordered for them (5: 26.27).

Isaiah talks about the righteous king who God will raise up to replace those present kings who ignore His law (11: 1-9). This future king is described in ideal terms and the time of his reign as a kind of paradise. "...with righteousness he will judge the poor... and the wolf shall dwell with the lamb... they shall not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain..." (11: 1-9). Christians claim that this passage refers to Jesus, although there is nowhere a mention of a divine being.

That Isaiah never thinks in terms of the Christian idea of forgiveness associated with Jesus is quite apparent. Christianity teaches that forgiveness is only obtained through belief in Jesus and his redemptive sacrifice. Isaiah teaches that with reasoning and moral behavior forgiveness will be granted. He says in the name of God, "Come now and let us reason together, the Lord declares; Though your sins be as scarlet, They shall be as white as snow... If you are obedient (i.e. of the law), You shall eat the good of the land..." (1: 18,19).