

January 24, 1986
Volume 12, Issue 3

RELIGIOUS SERVICE, Friday, January 24, 1986, 8:15 p.m.
Rabbi Herbert M. Baumgard
"OF ATHEISTS AND BELIEVERS"

CONGREGATIONAL TORAH SERVICE
Saturday, January 25th, 11:15 a.m.
Torah Portion: Bishalach, Ex. 13:17-17:16

Beth Am Commentator

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Dr. Harry Orlinsky Speaks At Temple Beth Am Friday, January 31st

Continually brought back by popular demand, Dr. Harry Orlinsky, the world famous Bible scholar, will speak on, "The Original Intent of the Bible-Decoding the Technical Language", following religious services on Friday, January 31st at 8:15 p.m.

Dr. Orlinsky's appearance at Beth Am this year coincides with the release of the new one volume edition of the Bible published by the Jewish Publication Society of which Dr. Orlinsky is the Editor In Chief. Dr. Orlinsky will tell us why the committee translated certain words one way and not another and how these translations alter the meaning of scripture.

Dr. Orlinsky will speak at Beth Am as part of our Adult Ed Institute program and his appearance is made possible by a contribution by Ethel Light in memory of George Light.

Dr. Orlinsky has been Professor of Bible at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion for decades and is a past president of the Society of Biblical Literature. His book, "Understanding The Bible Through History and Archaeology" is used in many universities as the basic book on the Bible.

"Jewish Medical Ethics" Subject of Rabbi Simon's Course on Tuesdays

"Who Shall Live and Who Shall Die", Rabbi Simon's course on medical ethics, will begin on Tuesday evening, January 21, at 8:00 p.m. in room 101 of the Learning Center. The discussion group will continue for four weeks.

Subjects to be discussed include abortion, mercy killing and organ transplants.

A second Adult Ed course for the winter term will be, "The Different Branches of Judaism-Can They Work Together". This will be taught on Wednesday evenings beginning February 19th at 8:00 p.m. Rabbis who will participate include Rabbi Pinchas Weberman (Orthodox), Rabbi Warren Kastzl (modern Orthodox), Rabbi Edwin Farber (Conservative). Rabbi Baumgard will handle the last week of the four week course.

Summer Camp Brochure in Mail Save Money for Early Registration

The new Summer Camp brochure is in the mail to all Temple members. Plans are well along for the summer of 1986. Summer Camp starts on Monday, June 23rd. We will have our Hippo pools on the grounds for all swimmers.

Once again, we will feature all sports activities, arts and crafts, gymnastics, music and dance, all under the supervision of a competent, experienced staff specially trained to work with young children.

As we did last year, we are offering special discounts to early registrants. If you register before March 31st, there is a discount of approximately 10% in the cost. We have found this results in a sizable saving in our cost of operation because it allows us to purchase supplies and hire the staff in the proper way. This saving will be passed on to early registrants.

Watch your mail for the Summer Camp brochure and register early to take advantage of early registration fees.

An Open Letter To The Congregation From Our President



Dear Congregants:

Our Temple is known to have some of the finest programming in the country, but the Board of Directors feels it can do even better with your help. We try to anticipate your needs and desires, but right now we would like you to take some of the guesswork out of our planning by communicating with us. We want to know what YOU would like to see us do.

Perhaps you would like to be more of a part of what is going on but don't quite know where to begin. Let's talk about that!

I am available to you very easily. I have a box in the office for notes, suggestions - anything you want to say, even if it's only to say "hello"! I would love to hear from you and to get to know you better.

Our Temple can only benefit from such exchanges. I look forward to hearing from you.

Most cordially, Evelyn Goodman, President

Temple Beth Am Concert Series

presents

Marvis Martin, Soprano

"An Afternoon of Music"

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

in the Temple Sanctuary



The Committee of 100

The following family has volunteered to join the Committee of 100 for the current fiscal year:

Robert and Peggy Brin



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

The Second In A Series on,
**"THE GREATEST
 ETHICAL TEACHERS"**

The Miracle Working Prophets

Elijah and Elisha are the two best examples of the miracle-working prophets. They may be best remembered for their apparent miracles, but we are most interested in them because they have some of the characteristics of the Classical or Literary Prophets who followed them.

It was Abraham, according to our midrashic stories, who taught the radical Jewish view that God was the Creator of nature but not in nature. In his famous "cave" experience, Elijah learns for all of us that God is not manifest in the earthquake, the storm, or the fire, but rather in the "still small voice". Presumably this is the inner voice that impels us to God-like deeds (1 Kings 19:9-12).

Elijah seems most like the later Literary Prophets when he challenges King Ahab on the occasion in which Ahab's foreign born and Baal-worshipping Queen Jezebel kills the farmer Naboth in order to confiscate his ancestral farm (1 Kings 21:1-16). Mediating the anger of God, Elijah declares to Ahab, "Does the king dare to murder and take possession also"! Then the prophet continues, "Surely royal blood will be spilled on the very spot where Naboth was unjustly murdered", (see verses 17-23).

Having publicly denounced the nation's ruler, Elijah had to flee for his life and return to the fugitive existence which had so long been his through the reign of this king and queen who eroded the Mosaic laws as well as the worship of the God of Israel. (see chapter 19:1-3).

We will see in our later discussions that the Literary Prophets did not rely on the performance of miracles to shore up their status as prophets. Why did Elijah and his student-successor Elisha resort to these demonstrations? Fundamentalists would answer that these prophets simply had greater powers. Some scholars believe that Elijah and Elisha appealed mostly to the population in the hill country where a tradition of miracle working seers existed, and the miracles were necessary to win support for their ethical pronouncements. So it was that these prophets brought a dead person back to life¹, fed many with a little food²; cured disease³; parted the waters to walk on dry land⁴; and Elisha himself ascended to heaven in a whirlwind.⁵

It may well have been that the performance of such miracles were a necessary part of the intense competition with the prophets of Baal who were the special favorites of Jezebel and some of the other Israelite monarchs. Nonetheless, in their concern for social justice, Elijah and Elisha were partial models for the later prophets. Certainly they were uncommon men of great courage. In their time they were giants and their charismatic qualities still endear them to most Jews in modern times.

Notes: (1) 1 Kings 17:17-24; 2 Kings 4:32-37. (2) Kings 4:42-44.
 (3) 2 Kings 5:1-14. (4) 2 Kings 2:8, 14. (5) 2 Kings 2:11.

Sisterhood's "Ideas Through Books" Meeting Notice

- BOOK: "DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE" by Robert Louis Stevenson.
- REVIEWER: MARGOT BERMAN, Temple Librarian
- TIME: THURSDAY, JANUARY 23rd, 9:30 a.m. for coffee and 7:30 p.m. for dessert
- PLACE: MORNING: Home of Pat and Dr. Albert Gilson
 3 Grove Isle, #1601
 R.S.V.P. 285-1820, or Gail at Temple
- EVENING: Home of Helaine and Murray Lipinsky
 4850 Ronda St., Gables
 R.S.V.P. 667-2451, or Gail at 667-6667

5TH & 6TH GRADE DISNEY WORLD TRIP FEB. 15TH

On Saturday, February 15th, the 5/6th Grade Youth Group will be going to Disney World. The trip is open to ALL 5th and 6th graders. This is a one day trip, leaving early on Saturday the 15th and returning that evening. The cost of the trip is \$45 for members and \$50 for non-members of the Youth Group.

B.A.F.T.Y. Sports Evening Feb. 8th: On Saturday, Feb 8th, G.M.F.T.Y. (Greater Miami Federation of Temple Youth) will be having a sports evening in a gym. This will be a fun filled evening for all 9-12th graders in the Miami area. We will leave Beth Am at 5 p.m. and return at 11 p.m. The cost will be \$4.

7th/8th Grade Disney Trip March 8th and 9th: On Saturday and Sunday, March 8th and 9th, the 7th/8th Grade Youth Group will be going to Disney World and Sea World. The trip will leave early Saturday, March 8th and return March 9th. The cost of the trip is \$80 for members of the group and \$90 for non-members. You must make your reservation before Feb. 14th. No reservations will be held without a check. Please mail checks to the Temple c/o 7th/8th Grade Youth Group.

Anyone interested in attending must get their money in and a permission slip as soon as possible to the Temple office. If you have any questions, please call Adrienne at the Temple, 667-6667.

Youth Trip to New York March 28-31st

The annual B.A.F.T.Y. New York trip will be held during spring break, from March 28th-31st. The trip is open to all 10th-12th graders. We will be visiting various points of Jewish interest in New York City. We will also be seeing the Broadway show, "Cats."

The amount of people who can take the trip is limited, so get your reservation in EARLY. If you are interested in going, please contact Adrienne Borisman at 667-6667 or 279-1862.

(You need not be a member of B.A.F.T.Y. to attend.)



Camp Coleman Summer Rally February 9th

UAHC Camp Coleman will hold a major South Florida '86 summer camp rally at Temple Israel of Greater Miami, 137 N.E. 19 Street, on **SUNDAY, February 9** at 3:00 p.m. A new special slide show will be presented, Staff introduced and refreshments served. Children between the ages of 7-15 years and their parents are invited. New and exciting innovations are planned for '86 and they will be explained in full. Call the camp office 305-592-2792 should there be questions.

Federation Women's Division Lunch Feb. 25th

The South Dade Women's Division of Greater Miami Jewish Federation will hold its Annual Luncheon for 1986 Combined Jewish Appeal on Tuesday, Feb. 25th, at 10:15 a.m. at Viscaya. There will be an al fresco luncheon, informal modeling, and guided tour of the villa and gardens. Guest speaker will be Dora Roth, of the Israeli Ambassador's Office.

The charge for the luncheon is \$25, and a minimum gift of \$200 to C.J.A. is required. For reservations and further information, call Micki Hochberg at 661-8995.

<p>B'Nai Mitzvah</p> <p>11:15 a.m.</p>  <p>Jason, son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Cohen</p>	<p>Saturday, January 25</p>  <p>Seth, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Alan Jacoby</p>
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