

BUILDING BRICKS WITHOUT STRAW- Building on Faith

1. Story of Pharaoh's response to Moses' request that he let the Hebrew go- made their tasks harder- no straw for bricks- impossible- yet did. SIMILAR PROBLEM WITH CONSTRUCTING NATION OUT OF "MIXED MULTITUDE". - mixed culture + nationalite
Point- HEBREWS ARE ACCUSTOMED TO DOING IMPOSSIBLE' making something out of nothing.

2. This Temple is an example of the same type of determination and inventiveness.

a). What was the raw material?

- 1) young families- most of whom had never belonged to a Temple.
- 2) families with different ideological orientation- orthodox, conservative, Reform- A "Mixed multitude". - at 278 1st service
- 3) no place to meet
- 4) - how to build a community loyalty, a devotion to Judaism, a congenial fraternit

b) Examples of cooperative spirit.

- 1) controversy over hats- settled - voluntary hats-
- 2) Hebrew school- Baptist church- (naturally)
- 3) Sunday School- U. Miami- (gifted children)
- 4) Services- Sunset Elementary School- (backward parents)
 - a) my 1st service there- almost passed out-

5) 2nd yr- Rabbi- coope. UAHC- raised dues-

DO YOU THINK PEOPLE RESIGNED JUST BECAUSE DUES RAISED FROM \$15 to \$100- of course they did- approximately 100 families- but membership rose- to over 200. and in next yr to 300.

6). Pledge fund- 100 families voluntarily came forward-THIS BLDG BUILT ON THESE VOLUNTARILY FUNDS plus funds raised by Sisterhood, Journal, etc.

3. MOST THRILLING ASPECT OF THIS KIND OF VENTURE WHICH BEGINS WITH NOTHING AND PRODUCES THINGS LIKE THIS MAGNIFICENT BUILDING IS what happens to individual people.

a) STORY IN DESERT- some people dissatisfied w/ rigors of exodus, search for promised land and freedom, self-respect- accused moses, * WHY DID YOU MAKE US LEAVE E GYPT WE WERE SATISFIED THERE. WE HAD PLENTY TO EAT . THINGS WERE GOOD ENOUGH FOR US,

Some people in Temple like this. Many people have said-"why do we need a bldg., we can continue to meet in the church, we can continue to use the facilities of the Univers Over and over again I have heard the statement, "when you keep talking about money, you take the heart out of religion". *you're account one material instead of the spiritual*

REMINDED OF INCIDENT WHICH INVOLVES PRIME MINISTER NEHRU OF INDIA, came to America, woman's luncheon. Mehru spoke about tremendous problems of poverty and illiteracy in India and the need for upping production with the help of sympathetic countries like America- WHEN TALK OVER SEVERAL WOMEN ASKED, this is all very interesting but what about the religions of india, this is what we want to hear about, the spiritual side of India. PRIME MINISTER NEHRU ANSWERED*- THOSE WHO SPEAK OF THE SPIRIT WHILE THEY BRUSH ASIDE THE QUESTION OF FOOD ARE RELIGIOUSLY IMMATURE". *fundamental with physical existence*

Similarly the Rabbis wrote in the Talmud, AYN KEMACH, AYN TORAH.- WITHOUT FLOUR OR BREAKD THERE IS NOT TORAH, there is no religion. *without no physical fac. for school + services - for learning + assembly -> it's 1/2 of novel.*

So, like the people who would be slaves in Egypt rather rather than undergo the rigors of the search for independence in Israel, the people who are so easily satisfied with eating the borrowed bread of generous friends, lack the essential fail to understand the essential ingredient of true religiosity- the NEED TO BE A FREE BEING, DEPENDENT ONLY UPON ONESELF, AND THUS THINKING AND CREATING A SOUL WITH ITS OWN CHARACTER AND ITS OWN MEANING.

I don't want to be too hard on these people.

b) anyone can be wrong- a failure of insight is not an unpardonable crime. Those who have felt this way, surely see in this magnificent building, a rebuttal to their original position. SURELY NOW THE DOUBTERS AND THE CRITICS WILL WANT TO COME FORWARD IN THEIR NATURAL GENEROSITY AND BREATHE OF INTELLIGENCE AND PROCLAIM WITH THE REST OF US- MAY TOVU OHILECCHA JA'COB, mishkanosecha yisrael- *278' 1' 8" x 216' 0"* "HOW MAGNIFICENT ARE THY DWELLINGS OH JACOB, THY TABERNACLE OH ISRAEL". *202' 7" x 152' 0"*

c) BUT I STARTED TO SPEAK OF THE DREAMERS WHO LED THE DRIVE FOR THIS TEMPLE - I wish that I could name all of them- but I would be remiss if I did not atleast name a few-

a) Herman Feldman- whose contributions in *terms of time, energy, patience* any conceivable dimension has been immeasurable- It is fair to say that this bldg. is not just a Temple to Herman and to Rose, it is just an extension of themselves- an essential part of their being-

b) Gne Fleisher- in his 2nd term as president- everyday is meeting day at Lucille's home- major contributions both spiritu

c) SELF-SACRIFICING PEOPLE - *other side - doubter - dreamer for* afraid to mention names- lest some people be angered that I did not mention their name- say something in this respect at the installation of officers on Sept. 5th- *we are most indebted - what brings you out S.W.A.N*

may people who a) devote major portion of free time ; b) significant portion of their business time; c) sign. portion of their income to Temple.

d) WILL RELIGION DWELL HERE/ *Some will say our mission is fine, beautiful - but*

Rel. already dwells here. TH

a) people come into syn.- nothing happens-

b) REL. EXPERIENCE IS GAINING IN WORKING TO CREATE SOMETHING FOR GENERAL GOOD.

1) then prayers become understandable

2) then songs become meaningful

3) building of this Building- MAJOR REL. EXPERIENCE- OUR EFFORTS WERE OUR PRAYERS - our committee meetings, our invocations, our financial contributions, our benedictions.

e) PROBLEM HOW TO SUSTAIN THIS dedication to labor- can't always build bldgs, altho we have several to go yet-

a) can always study tog. and learn tog- *we can learn* NOT TO TRANSFORM BRICK AND STONE INTO A TEMPLE; ~~TO~~ but TO TRANSFORM OUR MINDS INTO MANSIONS WHERE ALL LOVELY FORMS MIGHT DWELL-

BUT THIS IS NOT THE THEME FOR TONIGHT- there will be other nights and other sermons- TONIGHT let me ~~say~~ *say* merely - that somehow I strongly suspect that GOD HIMSELF IS STANDING SMILINGLY IN OUR MIDST *whispering* to those who are capable of hearing- YISM'CHU YIM YACHAD- *1/2 1/2*

Let us all rejoice together

Will done my son &

*my daughter, Let this house now become
whenever thou callest my name
I shall appear unto
thee - when thou callest unto me,
a meeting place for ~~thee~~ ^{you} and me. I shall be
here from this night on ~~we shall come together whenever~~
~~you call upon me - whenever you~~*

Come now at your group and
all - I will share
together - in sorrow in joy

in justice in grace
in quietude in callalab

SELF-SACRIFICING PEOPLE -
afraid to mention names - lest some people be angered that I did not
mention their name - say something in this respect at the installation of officers on
Sept. 25th

portion of their business time; c) sign. portion of their income to Temple.
d) WILL RELIGION DWELL HERE?
R.G.L. already dwells here. Y

PRAYERS - our committee meetings, our invocations, our financial contributions, our
benedictions.
1) then prayers become understandable
2) then songs become meaningful
3) building of the Building - MAJOR REL. EXPERIENCE - OUR EFFORTS WERE OUR
REL. EXPERIENCE IS GAINING IN WORKING TO CREATE SOMETHING FOR GENERAL GOOD.

e) PROBLEM HOW TO SUSTAIN THIS dedication to labor - can't always build bldgs,
altho we have several to go yet -
a) can always study for. and learn to - NOT TO TRANSFORM BRICK AND STONE INTO
A TEMPLE; X but TO TRANSFORM OUR MINDS INTO MANSIONS WHERE ALL LOVELY FORMS MIGHT
DWELL -

BUT THIS IS NOT THE THEME FOR TONIGHT - there will be other nights and other
sermons - TONIGHT let me say merely - that somehow I strongly suspect that
GOD HIMSELF IS STANDING SMILINGLY IN OUR MINDS whispering to those who are
capable of hearing - YESH'CHU YIM YACHAD -
Let us all rejoice together

my daughter, let the
I shall be
I shall be
I shall be

Invocation

Rabbi's Copy

God of our fathers, elohayni valoha avosanu

Isaac, and Jacob

We rejoice that we were able to keep faith with Abraham, ~~Moses and Jeremiah~~ ~~Isaac and Jacob~~,
~~Moses and Jeremiah~~

that we, like they, were able to build an altar dedicated to Thee.

We are not concerned that these walls are bare or without ornamentation, for Jacob was not ashamed to hallow a stone in the field in Thy name.

Rather do we pray that within these walls, such as they are, the spirit of human understanding, the spirit of learning, and the spirit of justice may ~~grow~~ thrive and grow.

Let us not view our accomplishments with over-weening pride, but let us marvel rightfully that once again something has emerged out of ~~nothing~~ cooperative endeavor beneficial to humanity

Let us not begrudge the labor and the resources which have built Thy house, but let us be grateful that the labor brought forth fruit and not vanity
has

Oh Lord let the poor find hope here; let the rich and fortunate find humility and oppressed here; and let us ~~be~~ be bound together in the indestructible bond of dedication to something greater than each of us and greater than all of us.

Amen

FIRST SERVICE, SOUTH DADE JEWISH CENTER (BETH AM)
August 22, 1958; Elul 6, 5718

Rabbi Herbert Baumgard
Temple Choir

Cantor Charles Sheldon Kodner
Pianist: Mrs. Murray Schwartz

1. PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Congregation translates after Cantor:

"Blessed art Thou, O Lord, Our God, Who Has Kept Us Alive, And Preserved Us, and Enabled Us to Reach This Occasion."

Rabbi presents Invocation.

2. Welcoming the Sabbath

a) Hebrew (p.26) - Cantor and Congregation

Refrain: L'cho dodi Lik-ras kal-lo p'nay shab-bos n'kab-loh

b) English (below) - Congregation and Cantor

1. Come Oh Sabbath Day and bring peace and healing on thy wing
And to every troubled breast, Speak of the Divine behest
Thou shalt rest, Thou shalt rest.

2. ~~Earthly longings bid retire, Quench the passions, hurtful fire~~
To the wayward, sin oppressed, Bring thou thy divine behest
Thou shalt rest, thou shalt rest.

3. Wipe from every cheek the tear, Banish care and silence fear
All things working for the best, Teach us the Divine Behest
Thou shalt rest, thou shalt rest.

3. CANDLE-LIGHTING - P.7 - Mrs. Eugene Fleischer

Solo - Mrs. Jack Diamond

4. CALL TO SERVICE - Bor'chu p.39 Cantor and Choir

5. Watchword of our Faith - Sh'ma p.40 Cantor and Choir

6. "With Everlasting Love Hast Thou Loved us, Ahavas Olam" - Cantor

7. Responsive Prayer p. 41

8. Silent Prayer P.43, 44.

9. May the Words P. 47

SERMON

10. Adoration p.71. Ark opened by Co-Chairmen of Building Committee
Harold Pomerantz - Sidney Schreer

11. Kaddish p. 77

12. Announcements

13. Kiddush p.93 Cantor

BENEDICTION

Note: Cantor Kodner is a newcomer to Miami and a guest. He has sung in major congregations in the mid-west for many years; served with the Chicago Civic Opera; sung in Broadway musical comedies, and has sung opposite such stars as Marguerite Piazza. He will sing in Kansas City for the Holidays.

Our Cantor for the Holidays will be Lawrence Davidson, leading baritone of the Metropolitan Opera, and trained by the Hebrew Union School of Sacred Music.

For newcomers, Rabbi Baumgard has been the spiritual leader of our congregation since 1956, the second year of our existence. Awarded the Palmer Prize as the outstanding student in the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York City, as a Junior in 1949, he was ordained in 1950 as President of the student body. He has taught at the Hebrew Union School of Education, New York, and has been repeatedly invited to lecture at Columbia University. He has appeared on national religious Television programs.

Mrs. Murray Schwartz is our newly-appointed pianist-organist. She is better known as a cellist and has played with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

Flowers by Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Steinberger

House Committee - Mr. Marvin Koffman, Chairman