## A MINIMUM CODE FOR THE MODERN JEW By Rabbi Herbert Baumgard Temple B'Nai Israel Elmont, N. Y.

Whings

1. I SHALL TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A JEW. I shall study a minimum of four hours a week on Jewish topics, history, culture, language, customs, etc.

- 2.I SHALL JOIN THE ADULT EDUCATION INSTITUTE OF MY TEMPLE to fill the gaps in my understanding of Judaism.
- 3. I SHALL ATTEND SERVICES at least once a week that I might learn to experience God.
- I SHALL OBSERVE THE SPIRIT OF THE SABBATH. I shall not do on the Sabbath what I can do on another day. I shall attend Services, study and participate in discussions concerning the welfare of the community and humanity on the Sabbath especially. I shall not undertake hard labor wherever possible. I shall not go shopping on the Sabbath. I shall not undertake a long journey where possible. I shall devote a significant part of the day in the search for peace of soul and the welfare of a peaceful world.
- 5. I SHALL STRIVE TO BECOME A TEACHER TO MY CHILDREN of all vital human matters including Judaism. I shall study with my children.
- 6. I SHALL HELP THOSE WHO LABOR FOR THE JEWISH COMMUNITY. I shall give of my time and money to the Temple, and to other Jewish organizations serving the Jewish community. I shall not be a mere spectator, reaping the reward of other people's labors.
- 7. I SHALL STRIVE FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD ON EARTH, I shall oppose those who surrender in despair to the evils of the world. I shall become involved in civic and political efforts to improve the governments under which men live.
- MY HOME SHALL BE A PLACE IN WHICH THE JEWISH SPIRIT GLOWS.
  There shall be Jewish books on the shelves, Jewish symbols on
  the tables. The wise shall be invited to my home that I may
  learn from them and that my home may be hallowed by their presence
- 9. I SHALL NOT SEEK TO HURT ANOTHER HUMAN BEING. I shall try to understand the reasons behind another person's errors that I might help him help himself. I shall not hold myself above other humans who have been less fortunate.
- 10. I SHALL NOT FOLLOW A MULTITUDE TO DO EVIL. I shall not seek to imitate my neighbor out of fear of being different. I shall not live merely to amass gadgets. I shall not cover my neighbors possessions.