

# The Shofar



## Temple Beth El Israel

551 SW Bethany Drive  
Port St Lucie, FL 34986  
phone 772-336-2424  
fax 772-336-7133

December 2020  
KISLEV / TEVET 5781

**Please Note:**  
All of our future activities,  
events and meetings hinge  
on whether we are able to  
hold them due to the  
Coronavirus pandemic

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Bruce Benson

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### From the Desk of Rabbi Bruce Benson

Well, we've made it through 2020.  
It's been a difficult year, by any definition.

So many things to reflect on as the year draws to a close and we celebrate the miracle of Chanukah again. The miracle of lights allows us to focus on light and how it creates a road to understanding. The metaphor of light to understanding (and darkness to a lack of it) is born out again and again.

In the last week, I have seen a movie wherein the "werewolf" character and the Frankenstein monster both exhibit enormous human kindness and empathy and the humans are the creatures without any such traits.

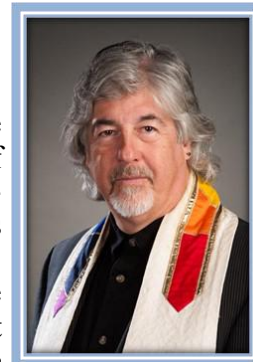
Ridiculous you think? As I am writing this, I am watching a TV story about a scientist (a 2020 Nobel Prize winner) explain a newly defined gene titled CRISPR.... CRISPR can adjust your DNA strand to eliminate diseases from the earth. The example the developer used was Sickle cell anemia, a disease that strikes the African American community. So, my head started to wonder: Could it also then solve the riddle of Tay-sachs, the disease that hits Eastern European Jews in massive numbers almost to the exclusion of other cultures?

How wonderful that would be! Just as I was starting to kvell in the sense that a cure could be close, I heard the moderator ask: "Well, but if you can restructure the human DNA strand, could you "design" children inter-utero to "build" humans as you want them to be? A designer-superior race? As the scientist said, "Well - yes, BUT we have committees to make sure that isn't how it's used", my nerves immediately fried.

Is humanity now at the precipice of science expanding our ability far beyond what our ethical/moral boundaries are prepared for? Have we reached my grandmother's proverbial, "Too smart for your own good" moment?

This month's Torah portions present us with similar challenges. Jacob has a dream of a ladder going up to the sky and "angels" are going up and down never stopping. Some suggest Jacob is trying to imagine the proximity between God and Humanity. The humans never get close enough to their destination, do they? Certainly, my favorite quote fits here:

*The obsession's in the chasing,  
Not the apprehending,  
The pursuit you seek,  
but never the arrest.*



Continued on page 7.....

*The President's Communication Corner .....*

*During this extremely difficult uncertain time all over the country, in fact, all over the world, it is imperative that we stay on course and find the patience to remain as steadfast members of our Temple.*

*We are putting together a re-opening plan that will be in the best interest of all of us that will enable us to return to services and to do so with the health, safety and well-being of all of us, while still following the guidelines set out by the CDC and the scientific community. All of us are anxious to get back to a "normal" way of functioning in all aspects of our lives, not only at Temple.*

*With that in mind, please read the attached regarding how we plan to implement re-opening and the strategy and course of action we will have to follow.*

*It is up to all of us to remain dedicated to our Temple and to continue our membership with the knowledge that our current circumstances are temporary and **there is a light at the end of this very long tunnel**. I'm sure we all want to make sure that we remain a vital and important Jewish presence in St Lucie County.*

*Stay safe, wear a mask, follow the CDC scientific guidelines, stay in touch and stay healthy. Wishing all a Happy Chanukah, with a very different way to celebrate ....*

*Faith*

*Rabbi Benson's Cell Phone Number is: 561-601-8294*

**Our officer's phone numbers:**

Faith Krumenacker ~ President	343-7639
Ellis Bromberg ~ First Vice President	414-218-2535
Bill Weber ~ Second Vice President	344-0965
Sue Klatch ~ Treasurer	336-7175
Tobi Rettig ~ Financial Secretary	340-4372
Ray Feldman ~ Recording Secretary	305-965-2155
Lydia Bauman ~ Corresponding Secretary	807-9978
Evelyn Poulter & Eve Epstein ~ Sisterhood Co-Presidents	812-1124/ 807-4713
Len Epstein ~ Brotherhood President	807-4713

*Help support the Temple.....*

*Until we return to  
normal programming*

**For more information about  
what's happening  
in the Temple  
go to our Website at:**

**TBEL.org**

## SISTERHOOD NEWS

Dear Sisterhood Ladies,

We had a very productive Board meeting this past month.

Since we can't have any fundraisers during this pandemic and while TBEI is closed for events., one of the suggestions that was made at our meeting and agreed upon, was to have a "simcha cake" to be included in the Shofar each month. For \$10 for the year (2021) you can share your happy news for all of us to celebrate with you whenever you have something to *kvell* about. Make your check payable to Sisterhood, send it to the Temple, and email Evelyn the occasion that you want to share, at [evelinap\\_11@yahoo.com](mailto:evelinap_11@yahoo.com).

We won't have any meetings in December and look forward to our January meeting when we can hopefully begin planning ways to be together.

We wish everyone a Happy Chanukah and a happier New Year 2021!

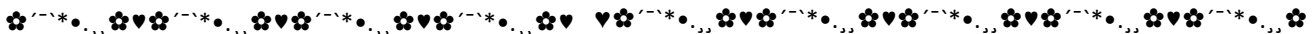
Eve & Evelyn, Co-Presidents

### OUR NEW SIMCHA CAKE



You can celebrate your special occasion with your friends and fellow congregants - for \$10 for the year.

Just send your check to Sisterhood and let Evelyn know what you would like to celebrate and it will be announced in the Shofar



### TBEI Sisterhood Book Club



*There is no Book Club in December*

*Wishing everyone a very  
Happy Chanukah.*

*Information about when we will resume our  
meetings will be forthcoming  
in the next issue of the Shofar*

The New Enjoyment Books are here  
They are on sale in the Judaica Shop



**\$35**

**\$35**

*We have many new & beautiful  
items in the Judaica Shop*

*Call for an appointment*

## BROTHERHOOD NEWS :

Wishing all of our members a Happy Chanukah.

Let's look forward to the time when we can be together and plan some activities to bring us back to our home at TBEI.

In the meantime, please follow the guidelines that will keep us safe and healthy.

Thank you all for your good wishes in my recovery process.

Len Epstein

Brotherhood President

**DON'T MISS OUR OUTDOOR CHANUKIAH LIGHTING  
ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11TH AT 7 P.M.**

**WE ARE ONCE AGAIN ASKING YOU TO PLEASE BRING  
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD TO THE TEMPLE TO BE DONATED TO  
THE SALVATION ARMY FOR THEIR INCREASING EFFORTS TO  
PROVIDE FOOD TO ALL THOSE IN NEED OF HELP, NOT ONLY NOW,  
BUT IT IS AN ONGOING PROCESS.  
YOU CAN BRING YOUR DONATIONS ON DECEMBER 11TH.**



For more information about  
what's happening in the Temple  
go to [TBEI.org](http://TBEI.org)



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**THE INSTRUCTIONS  
AND PROTOCOLS FOR  
RE-OPENING OUR TEMPLE ARE ON  
PAGE 10. PLEASE READ THEM AND  
UNDERSTAND WE ARE DOING THIS  
FOR ALL OF US SO THAT  
WE REMAIN HEALTHY AND SAFE.**



## This past month:



*Congratulations to Arie Adar  
on his Bar Mitzvah  
He made us all proud*



If you take pictures at any of our functions,  
please send them to me  
so we can all share your photos.  
Send them to: [faithkrumenacker@comcast.net](mailto:faithkrumenacker@comcast.net)



*We are having another food drive  
Please bring non-perishable items  
when you come to our  
Outdoor Chanukah celebration  
on December 11th at 7 PM.*



***Until further notice, our Friday & Saturday services will be broadcast over YouTube:  
Go to YouTube.com***

***Type in Temple Beth El Israel in the search bar***

***Click on our logo***

***Look for the service you would like to watch (either Friday or Saturday)  
and click on the video.***

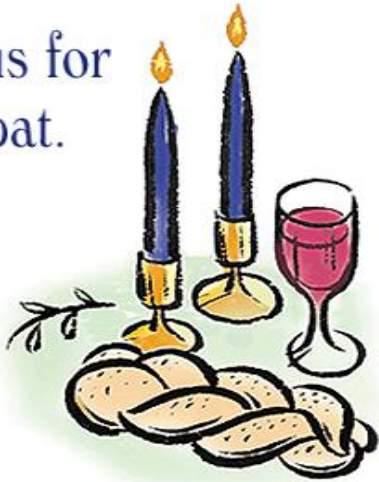


**Visit our Judaica Shop for your Chanukah shopping.  
We have many new and beautiful items on sale.  
Call for an appointment**

**Linda 871-1205**

**Faith 343-7639**

Join us for  
Shabbat.



*When we resume  
Friday night & Saturday morning  
services  
and until we get back to  
our normal schedules,  
the alternating dates of services  
will be listed so we can  
mark our calendars.  
Please be patient*

**LEAH WILLIAMSON  
CHAPTER OF HADASSAH**

We wish everyone  
A Happy Chanukah  
and look forward to when  
we can resume meetings

Arlene Schweitzer & Sue Schwartz  
Co-Presidents



*Don't forget to bring  
your lawn chairs to  
temple on Friday night  
December 11th*



*We'll celebrate outdoors*



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**DO A "JEWBER" MITZVAH ~ ~**

**IF YOU LIVE IN A COMMUNITY, OR  
NEAR WHERE SOMEONE ELSE LIVES,  
WHO CAN'T DRIVE AT NIGHT OR JUST  
NEEDS A RIDE TO GET TO THE TEMPLE,  
PLEASE CALL THE TEMPLE TO FIND  
OUT IF YOU CAN HELP ANOTHER  
MEMBER WHO WOULD LIKE TO COME  
TO SERVICES.**

Continued from page 1....

With the beginning of a world that includes CRISPR technology to adapt humans for good (imagine a world where we can “tinker” with DNA and eliminate Down syndrome... or a world where someone can define and actually create a more perfect race).....

As a Jew, having heard that before, I am now challenged to wonder what part each of us plays in creating a more ethical world. What are our responsibilities to that world and each other and how do we achieve that lofty goal?

It is our duty to each other to try.

As we light the Chanukah lights this year, perhaps the gifts we can share are not necessarily unwrappable ones, but creatable ones. Imagine a world where each night of Chanukah, each one of us commits to, or performs, 1 mitzvah for each candle...

OK - that would be 8 for each of us. 2 people in a household? 16 through the holiday. 150? 1,200!! If we take each of the 150 adults (ok, add the kids too) and they perform 1 mitzvah a day-1-ONE-eched- think how we can change this world from darkness to light...

Then we will have truly celebrated the Festival of lights and created a world wherein we might not need to be in a world where Frankenstein and the Werewolf bring more humanity to the world than humans....

After all, isn't that what humanity created as a result of tinkering too much?

Rabbi Bruce

Weather permitting Friday December 11th at 7:00 pm we are going to try to see if outdoor services can work for us. Here's the arrangement:

- 1.) Check the weather station first!
- 2.) If all is good, drive to the temple.

There will be 2 options:

- a.) Very limited parking in the parking lot (about 10-12 cars).
  - b.) Everyone else, bring a beach chair to sit on.
- 3.) If you're in a car, you will be given, when you get situated, a radio station on AM radio to turn to, as the transmitter will transmit whatever we do through the radio to your car.
  - 4.) If you're on a beach chair, we will have a sound system running sound for you.
  - 5.) We will light the Chanukiah on the Temple wall at 7:10 pm and then prepare to show the service on a 20 foot screen we have acquired.
  - 6.) **PLEASE BE AWARE:**

There will be no service indoors.

If inclement weather ensues, this Shabbat event will not happen.

Please understand we, the members of TBEI, are, in fact, one of the most at risk age groups and the Board, along with your officers and me, are determined to do everything we can to protect each of us.

We would ALL love to be back in the sanctuary. In many ways, no one more than me and look forward to being able to do so at the earliest date. But, having seen what this can do, and hearing the realities attached to this virus, choices need to be made between what we would like so as to remain constant and have “stability” in our lives, and the better judgement of safety.

It is incumbent on Jews to watch over each other. This is what we have chosen to do. Torah teaches us to “Love your neighbor as yourself” and so we are - not more than ourselves, not less than ourselves - but equal to ....

We are trying our best, but wishing a disease away doesn't make it so. Please - be safe.

Rabbi Bruce

## December Birthdays

- 1 Claire Ann Kreiss
- 1 Judi Pedersen
- 4 Linda Greenwald
- 5 Ellis Bromberg
- 9 Ednah Ashley
- 10 Judith Orange
- 10 Hannah L. Pollack
- 12 Keith Ashley
- 12 Suzanne Klatch
- 15 Michael Cohn
- 16 Diane Goldberg
- 18 Michael Seigel
- 18 Alice Tartak
- 20 Susan Polakow
- 23 Lauren McFadden
- 25 Katherine Isenburg



## December Anniversaries



- 22 Sandra & Bruce Lippman
- 25 Laretta & Arnold Silverberg

CONGRATULATIONS

חג שמח

מזל טוב

If you don't see your birthday or anniversary listed in the Shofar contact the Temple office and ask to have your special day included on our list.



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PLEASE.....

Notify the Temple office or call the Rabbi if a family member, or if you are aware, a fellow congregant is ill, has had an accident, or is in need of the Rabbi's services. The Rabbi can only help if he is informed that he is needed.

A grateful thank you to everyone that has been helping at our Bingo game. Our game has been slowly growing and we could use help whenever you are able to give some time - any Monday between the hours of 5:30 and 9:15.





## *Beth El Memorial Park, Inc.*

Located on Old Dixie Highway in Fort Pierce one mile north of Indrio Road.  
There are four pricing levels for gravesites, all of which include Perpetual Care.

TRADITIONAL PLOTS ARE 5' X 10'

CREMAINS PLOTS ARE 3' X 3'

	TRADITIONAL	CREMAINS
A - Husband, wife, dependent children under 22 who are members of Temple Beth El Israel.	\$1350.	\$625.
B - Children of TBEI members over 22, member's parents and siblings	\$1450.	\$625.
C - Members of other Temples in the area.	\$1450.	\$625.
D - For non-members.	\$2050.	\$700.

Add \$50. filing fee per sale not per grave site & \$150. for Perpetual Care/\$50. for cremains site

*Note:* For the purpose of this pricing, a member is one who has been a paid up member of the Temple for a period of more than one year.

For more information please call:

Bob Polakow (772) 240-4301

Harold Schwartz (561) 635-5237

Bill Weber (772) 201-1255

THE DIRECT LINE FOR THE CEMETERY IS: 772-882-3601

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***Please Note:***

***For the duration of this pandemic and when we re-open, we are limiting our capacity to 40 per service and it is our intention to alternate services, i.e.: Friday night one week and Saturday morning the following week unless otherwise instructed. If you call after we have filled our limit, you will be put on the list for the following Friday or Saturday.***

***Let's hope this is going to be a very short-lived and temporary solution and we will be back to normal quickly.***

***The following protocols have been put in place for the benefit of our entire membership and any guests that might attend our services during this pandemic:***

You must call the Temple office to make a reservation no later than the Thursday morning prior to the Friday evening or Saturday morning service you would like to attend. Your name(s) will then be placed on a reservation list and you will be assigned seat number(s) according to the number of people for whom you are making a reservation. There is a limit of 40.

If individuals (non-members) show up without a reservation, we can accommodate them up to our limit; if we have no-shows from the reservation list or if we haven't gotten 40 reservations, and they will be given our guidelines for service attendance.

Sisterhood and Brotherhood members will be at the door for all services to welcome and direct service attendees to their seat(s).

We will follow the CDC protocols for services; temperature will be taken at the door, masks must be worn and in place, hand sanitizer will be used upon entry.

Social distancing will be strictly adhered to. Chairs will be designated and numbered as the only chairs that can be sat in.

If a mask is removed or not properly in place, we reserve the right to tell the congregant that they need to fix their mask or cannot stay in the temple and must leave. This includes both adults and children.

Anyone that calls and says they have a medical reason for not wearing a mask will be told to watch the service at home on YouTube.

There will be no Oneg or Kiddush after any service until further notice.

Occupancy is limited to the sanctuary and rest rooms; the kitchen and social hall are off limits.

If you are seated where you can't see the screens and it is necessary to use books, Rabbi will announce page numbers. Books will be available on a table at the rear of the sanctuary. Books must be returned to the table at the rear of the sanctuary for sanitization and decontamination purposes.

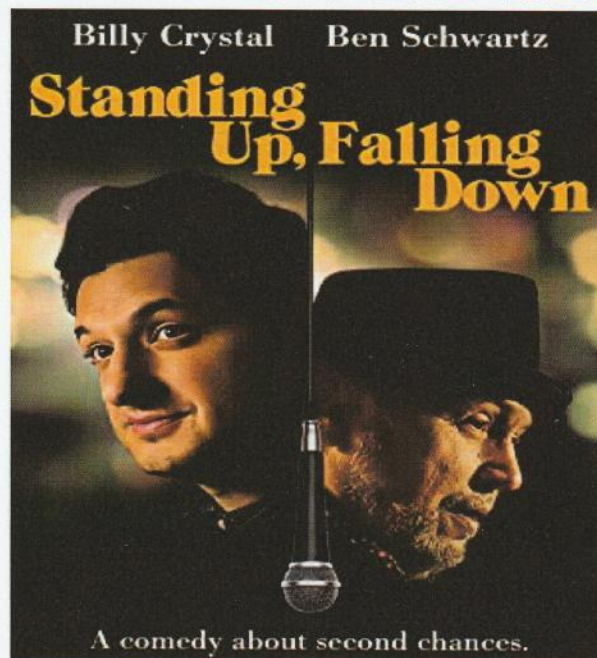
You must vacate the building without socializing when the service ends.

***Thank you for your cooperation and understanding – this is for the safety and well-being of all of us.***

# TREASURE COAST JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

## "STANDING UP FALLING DOWN"

STREAMED DEC 4-6<sup>TH</sup>. DISCUSSION, VIA ZOOM  
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# Friday night Candle Lighting Schedule:



## December:

6	5:11 pm
13	5:13 pm
20	5:18 pm
27	5:20 pm

## Lighting the Shabbat Candles:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם  
אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו  
להדליק נר של שבת: (אמן)

Baruch ata Adonay, Eloheynu melech ha-olam, asher kid-shanu b'mitz-votuv, v'tzivanu l'hadlik nayr shel Shabbat.

Praised are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who has taught us the way of holiness through the Mitzvot, and enjoined upon us the kindling of the Shabbat lights.

*For more information about  
what's happening in the Temple  
go online to **TBEI.org***

~ ~ ~

*Watch for Rabbi Benson's  
communications about classes he and  
Dr Larry Giltman will be presenting*

Our new Shofar advertising year begins with the September issue.

If you or anyone you know would like to advertise in our monthly newsletter please contact the Temple office for details.

Rates are as follows per year:

FULL PAGE.....	\$325.00
HALF PAGE.....	\$200.00
QUARTER PAGE.....	\$145.00
BUSINESS CARD.....	95.00
ONE-TIME FULL PAGE.....	\$ 40.00 / ISSUE

Print-ready ads must be submitted no later than August 10th for the September issue. Please send your ad to:

faithkrumenacker@comcast.net



## TREE OF LIFE AND MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Bronze - \$100

Silver - \$150

Gold - \$200

Memorial Plaques - \$200

Call the Temple office @ 336-2424  
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## **Wishing all a Happy Chanukah from your Sisterhood friends at TBEI**

**Ferne & Bill Barishman  
Lilly Beauchamp  
Debbie Brateman  
Miriam & Arno Cassel  
Linda & Bernie Chazin  
Cynthia & Martin Cohen  
Fran Cooper & Harvey Levy  
Eve & Len Epstein  
Hermas Grayless  
Linda Greshes  
Doris Haendel  
Pam & Richard Holmes  
Kathy & Ray Isenburg  
Dorothy Janin  
Carol & Marty Kahn  
Eileen Katzman  
Sue Klatch  
Faith Krumenacker  
Linda Levin  
Karol & Richard Levine  
Cecile & Sam Levy**



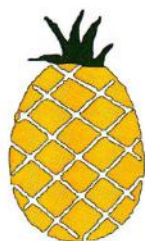
**Rochelle Lustig  
Judy & Marvin Mendelson  
Judy Orange  
Maryann Polk  
Hannah Pollack  
Evelyn Poulter  
Rene & Harvey Safeer  
Naomi Sapphire  
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Andrea & Rinaldo Stephens  
Fran Tama  
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Meta & Vic Thomas  
Ronni Winer &  
Ray Feldman  
Harriet Zbarsky**

**For a \$5 donation you can still be listed in the  
Passover issue of the Shofar**

### **CHANUKAH.....**

The kindling of the Menorah is the focal point of the Chanukah holiday, symbolizing religious freedom and the strength of the Jewish spirit. The menorah is kindled on each of the eight nights of Chanukah. This year Chanukah begins on Thursday night, December 10th. The candles are lit right after sunset and usually stay lit for at least a half hour after sunset. The Chanukah candles are lit before the Shabbat candles and after the Havdalah candle at the end of Shabbat. The candles are lit from left to right.





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### *Donations to the General Fund:*

Paul Weinstein  
~

Susan Lee Mazer  
~

Richard R. & Karol E. Levine  
In Honor of Linda Chazin's 80th Birthday

### *Donations to the Security Guard Fund*

Faith Krumenacker  
Lillian Beauchamp

### *A/C & Building Fund Donations:*

Susan & Lester Schwartz

#### **NOTE:**

Above donations were received in October

## YAHREIT FUND DONATIONS

### **From:**

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Robert & Susan Polakow  
Alan Portnoy  
Ellis & Mel (Ellyn) Bromberg

Eileen S Katzman  
Judith Logue

Raymond Feldman & Arona Winer  
Susan Redman  
Howard & Brenda Derector

#### **NOTE:**

Above donations were received in October

### **In Memory Of:**

Michael Tama  
Jack Cohn, Ida Cohn  
Deize Camelli Sabino,  
Ada S Payne

Melvin Karpf  
Ruth Bornstein  
Tess & Murray Weiss  
Louis Mittleman  
Sally & Philip Cohen  
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Ellen Flecker  
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Phillip Sinoway  
Julie Klatch  
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Fred Winfield  
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### ***Our Monthly TBEI Library Book Review.....by Sheilah Korinow***

I am reviewing a book which is one of those you may look through at your leisure and decide which pages you would like to read. The book is called The Greatest Jewish Stories Ever Told, selected, retold, and introduced by David Patterson, a person who majored in philosophy as an undergraduate, and went on to major in comparative literature for his Master's and PhD. He was converted to Judaism in 1990 and has lectured at universities and organizations around the world, has remained active in Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and participated in other Holocaust groups. He has published over 80 articles in a variety of journals, and is the author of a number of books. It is his unique collection of stories and tales that we turn our attention.

As I look through the table of contents, I discover the major topics - Biblical Tales, Talmudic Tales, Midrashic Tales, Kabbalistic Tales, Legends and Folktales, Tales of the Hasidism, and Modern Tales. Each group of tales has an introductory overview by the author at the beginning of the chapter, familiarizing us with the time period from which the stories originate, and in addition, some of the individual tales have a few more sentences of explanation. Both are worth reading.

The major Introduction at the beginning of this book discusses "what makes a Jewish story Jewish" and "what makes a Jewish story great?" It goes on: "A Jewish story is much more than a story told by a Jew or a story told about other Jews. A Jewish story is about God's relation to the Jewish people, their relation to God, and what these two relationships have to do with the way people relate to one another. It is about handing down a teaching and assuming responsibility. Therefore it is about a tradition that conveys what Jews hold dear, what Jews live for, and what Jews have to answer for." Do not forget that as you read the tales in this book.

The first section contains Biblical Tales - tales from the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings. Also included are two tales from the Apocrypha. Because I know many of you are familiar with a lot of these biblical stories, I'll be brief, but will remind you that you should read the short introductions to those tales you might like to read, helping you to gain more insight into each one's meaning and purpose. Included in these stories are "The Wisest of Men" (I Kings 3; 4-28), which helps you to think about what a man might ask for, and "Jacob Wrestles With God" (Genesis 32;4-32), where we can think about what it means to be called "Israel". There are 28 stories in this chapter.

The Talmudic Tales are next, and number 32 in all. Here we find stories such as "Slow to Anger" (SHABBAT; 30B-31A) in which Rabbi Hillel not only practices patience and is slow to anger, but also teaches us a lesson. Another tale, "The Renegades of Babylon" (BETZA 32B), where "what it means to be a Jew" is shown in the qualities Jews possess. "The Old Man and the Carob Tree" (TA'ANI 23A) shows that "Gratitude and Responsibility are two of the most important links between God and humanity: gratitude for the labor of those who have lived before us and thanks to whom we have life, and responsibility for those who are yet unborn and whose lives are entrusted to our care." Lastly, we have the tale "The Angels Rebuked" (SANHEDRIN 39B) which reminds us that every human being, whether a friend or enemy, Jew or Gentile is "a child of God and a descendant of Adam". Thus, "the death of any single human being diminishes the humanity of all-even the death of an enemy." Don't we show this during our Passover Seder when we dip our finger into the cup of wine, reminding us of the Egyptian first-born, mourning the loss of life? Shouldn't we constantly remind ourselves of the sanctity of life today?

Let's move on to the next section, Midrashic Tales - stories which explore the Torah even deeper. As the book states, Midrashic tales explore "the motivations of the characters and the implications of their actions as presented in the Bible and Talmud." Again, I urge you to first read the introduction to this section, as well as individual introductions before each tale. There are 18 tales in all. You may choose to read "Why Moses Was Not Buried in the Holy Land" (DEUTERONOMY RABBAH 2:8-9). This is an interesting tale in which Moses has a conversation with God, constantly about why he cannot enter the Promised Land. The answer has to do with passing oneself off as something we are not. "The Two Jewels" (MIDRASH ON PROVERBS 30:10) is an interesting tale about being tested, yet not losing our faith in God.

Next are the Kabbalistic Tales, 24 in all, all dating from the 12th to 13th centuries. Some tales come from a group of Kabbalists known as "the Iyyan Circle" from the south of France, but most are taken from the Zohar, written by Moshe de Leon from Spain. These tales, as the introduction explains, "may be viewed as akin to the prayers that draw not only the mystics" closer to God, but others too. The book continues: "Relating and receiving these kabbalistic tales is a means of penetrating the secret side, the sacred side. of all the things, both and beyond us."

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page...

They open the connections between life and meaning, without which we have neither." This section includes a beautiful tale, "The Union of Heaven and Earth" (ZOHAR ON GENESIS 30B-31A). It is the joining of what is above and what is below. The union of heaven and earth in the end, finds their union in "the life of the human being who joins his life to the Holy One by affirming the holiness of other human beings." Another tale is "Why the Jews Sway When They Pray" (ZOHAR ON NUMBERS 218B - 219A). Only the mystics can relate it to a flame! I really think many of you will appreciate and enjoy this section of Kabbalistic tales which take you to a deeper level than all other parts of the book.

Again, we move forward to the next section, "Legends And Folktales". These are usually created by people, not a specific person. Legends are about famous individuals such as a hero or sage - who help to develop tradition. Folktales deal with the common people, and are often similar to the culture of a certain region or historical period. They often introduce you to a teaching about what a certain culture values. In this section we come across "How the Second Becomes the First" - a delightful tale of around 1,000 years about the argument between Hebrew letters over which one should be first in the alphabet. The connection can be seen between the words and their meanings. There is also the tale of "From the Tears of Truth", a legend originating with Eastern European Jewry. What was involved in creating a human being? Experience the discussion between four angels - of Mercy, Truth, Peace, and Justice. Truly a meaningful legend! Lastly, I'll mention "Judge Everyone Favorably", a lesson on being slow to condemn which is based on Talmudic teachings. There are 28 folktales and legends in this chapter.

"Tales of the Hasidim" are in the next chapter, making up 37 tales in all. I remember over a long period of times hearing Hasidic tales used in the temples I have attended. In fact, tales play a very large role in Hasidism - more than in any other movement in Judaism. In more modern times, Martin Buber, Elie Wiesel, Isaac Bashevis Singer and Joshua Heschel have compiled a good number of Hasidic tales, or have written about great Hasidic personalities. One tale in this section is "Learning to Walk", concerning our fears about the silence of when we need God to listen. See how it is likened to a child learning how to walk. In the tale "God is Hiding", find out what the game "hide-and-seek" has to do with our relationship with God.

The final section of the book is "Modern Tales", which includes 19 in all. These tales were written by people of many cultures and times (during the last three centuries). All are concerned with human values, "large scale migrations; new opportunities in social, political, and cultural spheres; new forms of religious observance; and, at times, new forms of oppression." Included in this section is "Soap and Water", by Anzia Yezierska, who immigrated to America with her parents in the beginning of the twentieth century. She tells her story of sweatshops, poverty and then college. One can see that even coming here, life could be very difficult. In "The Tale of a Nanny Goat, by S.Y. Agnon, you will find an emotional tale of the importance of communication, and about the wonder of the Land of Israel.

The stories in this book vary in length - most are about a page, some a couple of pages, and the longest tales are in the final section of "Modern Tales". Obviously, you can pick and choose which ones you want to read. Don't forget to leave time for mulling things over in your mind. When I first chose this book to review, I didn't realize I would like it as much as I did. Please make the effort to check it out. The reward is great!.

While our temple is still closed, you may check out a book by meeting me in the temple parking lot, or I will gladly bring it to your home. You may e-mail me at [skorinow@gmail.com](mailto:skorinow@gmail.com), or call me at 772-871-0030.

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Renette Dorman  
Arthur Fuss  
Sylvia Giltman  
Elizabeth Graner  
Bernard Haskin  
Abigail Huber  
Michael Huber  
Tess Huber  
Saul Isenberg  
Leo S. Kastner  
Abe Klein  
Herman Lax  
Jerome Lebowitz  
Lynn Carol Lipson  
Beatrice Lisansky  
Morris Marmorstein  
Morris Moskowitz  
Tillie Pallie  
John Pollack  
Petrice Potash  
Nathan Putchat  
Rosalye Sapiro  
Sylvia Schatten  
David B. Schulman  
Sidney Schweiger  
Selma Seligman  
Shirley Seltzer  
Sylvia Silberberg  
Edith Sobel  
Dr. Bradley Timpf  
Helen Tipley  
Lillian Tornansky  
Ralph Wishnia  
Florence Zarovsky

12/12 –12/18

Milton Barishman  
Gay K. Barland  
David Belsky  
Bernard Bernheim  
Clara Bernheim  
Bess Berson  
Rose Brandsschain  
Fannie Brown  
Edward Cagan  
Julius Cohen  
Phyllis Cooper  
David Dalke  
Allan Eichenbaum  
Frances Emas  
Sylvia Fox  
David Goldberg  
Harry Halper  
Richard Handler  
Sylvia Hartogsohn  
Sarah Holtsberg  
Miriam Jaffe  
Joseph Jones  
Oscar Kanarek  
Joseph Klein  
Jack Kremer  
Ceil Lesser  
Pearl Honig Levine  
Isaac Linke  
Victor Passy  
Edith Pollack  
Rhoda Saxe  
Leah Siegel  
William Siegman

12/19—12/25

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Andrea L. Camras  
Jacob Chazin  
Frances Cohen  
Adele Deutsch  
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Manuel S. Fink  
Sadye Gerzog  
Morris Goldfarb  
Victor Halper  
Lillian R. Kanarek  
Ida Katzman  
Arnold Harry Kroitor  
Harry Lewen  
Margaret Meadow  
Irma Meinhardt  
Shirley Morin  
Abysch Perl  
Benjamin Pinkowitz  
Eugene Rose  
Harry Schneider  
Saul Schulley  
Joe Selkin  
Ida Shatkin  
Harry Snider  
David Sobel  
Joyce Starr  
Harry Stein  
Sidney Suss  
Edward Weirnerman  
Bertram Weinshank  
Marusia Wishnevsky  
Clara Woskobochnik

12/26-1/1

Albert Axler  
Bernard Baloff  
Irving Barenberg  
William Birnbaum  
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Myron Mayer Cohen  
Jose' Miguel Da Cesia  
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Rissa Fink  
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Louis Giltman  
Gilbert Greene  
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Bertha Jacobs  
Esther Kingsberg  
Ida Kirsch  
Siegfried Kosiner  
Irving Lerner  
Eugene Levitt  
Jacob Lirtzman  
Samuel Medvedeff  
Rabbi Max Meyer  
Dorothy Peltz  
Eva Pieck  
Betty Prepon  
Sandra Puchaski  
Emma Rubin  
Meyer Rubin  
Sima Rubin  
Irving Schnapp  
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Ethel Silverman  
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Gail Tobin  
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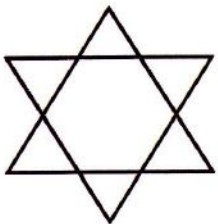
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