



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

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MS-603: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Collection, 1945-1992.

Series A: Writings and Addresses. 1947-1991

Box 5, Folder 4, Invocation - 90th anniversary Nobel Laureate
Dinner, 9 December 1986.

INVOCATION BY RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS, AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, AT 90TH ANNIVERSARY NOBEL
LAUREATE DINNER, NEW YORK MILTON HOTEL, TUESDAY, DEC. 9, 1986

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XXXNXXSMEBAXIX RIBONO SHEL OLAM, CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE, IN WHOSE
ONENESS WE FIND OUR UNITY AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF GOD'S HUMAN FAMILY,
AS WE GATHER TO HONOR ALFRED NOBEL AND THE AMERICAN NOBEL LAUREATES
of the PAST 45 YEARS, WE REFLECT ON THE POWER OF KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM.
JEWISH TRADITION TEACHES THAT THE FOUNDING FATHERS OF ETHICAL MONOTHEISM,
ABRAHAM, ISAAC, AND JACOB WERE NOT PERMITTED TO PRAY TOGETHER AT ONE TIME.
SO POWERFUL WERE THEIR MINDS AND THEIR FAITH THAT JOINING THEM TOGETHER
IN ONE MOMENT WOULD BRING ON THE MESSIAH BEFORE HIS TIME.

TO JOIN MINDS AND HEARTS TOGETHER IN THE PRESENCE OF SO MANY
NOBEL LAUREATES IS AWESOME AND COMFORTING. WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE, THE
ARE
SOET-SCHOLAR IBN EZRA WROTE, XX LIKE FIRE - WHEN USED HUMANELY, TO HEAL
and ENNOBLE MANKIND, THEY ENLIGHTEN THE UNIVERSE; BUT WHEN MISDIRECTED
THEY BECOME A TERRIBLE CONFLAGRATION. TEACH US THEN TO KNOW THAT THE
AIM OF WISDOM IS THE FORMATION OF CONSCIENCE AND GOOD DEEDS: AND THAT
PEACE IS THE XXXX CLIMAX OF ALL WISDOM. RABBI HAMMAN OF BRATZLAV
SAID IT CLEARLY IN HIS MASIDIC PRAYER IN THESE WORDS: