



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series IV: Sermons, 1914-1963, undated.

Reel
161

Box
57

Folder
715

Rekindling the lights, 1944.

- 1/ Rich House filled with memories - & exalted by a justifiable pride.
 - This Sanctuary, after 20 yrs, is entirely free of debt.
 - It would have been - yrs. of econ. depression - made no settlements
 - paid off every dollar we borrowed - with full interest.
 - We are proud, that - not a light burden - over \$400,000.

- 2/ Proud, too, what was built - well & beautifully built - an object of
 architects. pride to our ^{entire} community. It has become a land-
 mark in Cleveland - & from all parts, the country -
 eccles. art.
 then then 20 yrs - well loved & a great ad. chain which
 are adds to all objects of interest & activity. (Bailey)

- 3/ Proud, too, what was built has been widely ~~used~~ and ^{the best} fully
 used. Dedicated to worship of God & study, ^{the best} ~~there~~
 we, women & children have then then 20 yrs come to
 this Sanctuary - school - halls, assembly - to ~~work~~ ^{worship},
 to many activities, to guided & unguided -
 Dedicated to cultivation, human ideals, championing
 of high standards, ~~everybody~~ ^{everybody} civic upholders,
 social justice & human betterment
 then then years - the Temple - has been faithful to that
 mission & zeal in the promotion of it.

- 4/ Many, those who 20 yrs ago - part. joyously & with
 faith in their hearts - in Dedication to us have been

4
Gone to their eternal reward -

- But their ~~for~~ joy & gratitude were not unwarranted. They
banded well & securely - Their children have taken their
places - and other ~~have~~ many others have been added to our
family & living fellowship - 11/11/31 - 1/1/38 -
The church is not broken - The ~~with~~ ^{with} spir. sacrament
continues - as it always has in the service around
our people.

5/ Hundred of our young men - not here to day - at war
unless I mis-interpreted them & their ^{where they were} ~~latter~~ ^{something} ~~to~~ ^{to} spend
this Temple is with them wherever they are - ^{to} spend
the soul, the heart which is entrusted here. In dedicating
their lives - ~~they fill the seat~~ in young men the hard
experiences - they feel true to gain the import, that rel.
unification which they received here - as children, a young
men know.

6/ "All that is past is prologue" -

Proud as we are of what we have accomplished in the past -
are great opportunities & challenges lie in future -

We must build even better - not in stone & wood - but in
spirit & service ^{the many sanctuaries} in the coming years - Every true sanctuary
must be modeled after
celestial arch type

From year to year. The year of reconstruction & the rebuilding
of a shattered ~~new~~ world to revive society.

Religion has suffered grievously in the years hit. 2 was
low, and stumbled under foot by our trustees. Populism

3
triumphed - Freedom peace and elementary human dignities
~~was~~ vanquished - world filled with cruelty, hate, loshes +
torment chambers, until the earth could not contain them
any longer - and for a second time in ^{the} past generation wandering
is to-day plunged in a bloody, global war

7/ Only religion will be able to heal the wounds; this
almost fatal assault -

Churches + Synagogues will have their greatest testing
hour, the day when ~~the~~ they begin their work
and begin, phys thp. spent exhausted, to rebuild their
broken homes and their ruined hallowed lands.

8/ As we rededicate this Temple - thousands, Synagogues
burnt to the ground - put into and abandoned.
Hundreds, of communities - effaced - Old centers -
Only few remain - The largest, the most prosperous - U.S.!

- This imposes grave resp. on us - on every Jew
Synagogue in U.S. - to redouble its work for survival - for feeding
nourishing + enriching the great Jewish Tradition:
And now syn. is no longer a mere reg. > its members work
= every member dedicated himself - to his rel. duties -
to Jewish home - educat. & his children - adjuv educat
scholarships - institutions - J. learning +

9/ Our life - Our chief reason.

