



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

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

Series IV: Sermons, 1914-1963, undated.

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Are you afraid of your loyalties?, 1948.

1) "I changed my name" - anonymous - "I've left my name" - David L. Stein
 a Jew - with a name for the right J. - in the way - b.c. of prejudices -
 For 60 - had his name legally changed. - Justifies & defends out.
 He got away with it - not every body was fooled - a minority persecuted
 his disfigure - the more bigoted. - For the others - he fooled them.
 When as ^{-most-likely} ~~he~~ ^{he} sees no reason why he should make it
 easy for those bigots who like to put their finger on Jews -
 why shouldn't they be misinformed. If enough names are
 changed, they will certainly be confused. He would like to make
 it more difficult for universities - employment agencies - try
 and find me. (2) concerned with making it easier for himself -
 adjusted to his environment - and that is "a notable
 definition of intelligence. ~~But~~ Some-day people will expect disproportion.
My time - has only one life to live and that's pretty brief.
 (3) saw up only heat-ache - Education entirely secular -
 non-religious; his cultural background Greek - Rome -
 and the Christian tradition; The culture in which he lives
 spans from 20 centuries, Christianity. (4) J. tradition meant
 nothing to him - He knows as little about it as Socrates. ~~but~~
~~he thinks~~ (5) Jews are being persecuted. Jews are trying to get
 to Palestine. Don't doesn't he bleed for them? Yes he is
 appalled by all man's inhumanity to man everywhere. But
 he is equally concerned with the plight of the Chinese.
 He generally feels as bad about a dying Hindu as about a
 dying Jew.

2) And so he changed his name - as a way out - and as
 a way in -

2/ (Just). ①

It does not need to be a social climber. There is an overproduction / there is this country. There is a vast amount of social snobbery in a short-sleeved dress, such as ours - flowing largely from social insecurity - esp. among large numbers, the lower middle class. esp. its women. - They do not put out all jaws - the famous - great names - are given exemptions. ✓ There are also "fit Jews" & their Gentile keepers - (Just)

He draws a picture of his home town - Greenville, Miss - friendly atmosphere - (Just) ① space, but KKK was not in force - (~~Just~~). Circle Just by

3/ Justed then articles - to illustrate "loyalty"

① What was he running away from? this anonymous man who changed his name? What was he seeking?

② Nothing very serious about changing one's name. "Name-changing" is a widespread phenomenon among members of all the various stocks who compose our population including the Anglo Saxons - (H. L. Menckel) - Jews in all ages - and as they immigrated Family name washed on them - like a stream or stream -

③ Infatuated question - is why? Is it merely a matter of convenience + adaptation - or to cover up hide one's identity? Does it stop

with name-changing? Do ~~he~~ wish to be known
under any circumstances as a Jew? Especially
and assimilation. ~~But~~ Clearly this latter

is the case with our anonymous friend —

① His origin is in the way — Enigma here —

He has no allegiance to any of tradition — He is neither
a Jew — nor a cultural Jew — nor a modernist Jew
He is just a 'headache' — a 'misfortune Jew' — He'd like
to shake off this misfortune imposition but what destiny
laid over him —

② If even he will fail! The circle which he
plans will part beneath his dispute — The Zerkman
which he or his children will have to answer — do
not stop at the non-sensical name. They probe
deeper. He will either tell the truth — or lie then
and again — subjecting himself to all the wisdom of
the bar powerful defectors — He will listen
to vituperation fillet what a chamberlain person are summed up
(3) When Antidem plan up — I do not stop at

the barrier of a political name — He went
back 4 generations — not as 1 changed names — but
changed religions — → assimilation —

4/ He has no loyalties - ~~he is not~~ one supports any great cause - lot-Comm-
social - he would run away from that as well -
- for what he wants alone all else - is to be free
to enjoy himself - Tracy felt as freely as possible
to stand out - to stand alone - to be opposed
the majority, the majority - to be misunderstood
and hated and ostracized.

57. There is one ~~fact~~ excuse — ignorance. He
knows as little about his tradition — a Jew that.
(a) Tanet, his playing parents — They failed
to give him the tradition — things the legal but
made him ashamed, then key name — He
knew Greek — Roman — Christian — Why was
he not like the Hebrew — Bible Judaism which
is the heart, Christ tradition — all etc.

6/. To be loyal there must be accepted & believed
obedience loyalty - something that is so fine
that it has a claim on our allegiance

(5)

and exact

brudaris 7 self sacrifice. He is neither corrupted

Self-willed, dusty and a deluge.

whether it is loyalty to my family, to one
country, ^{with which} or one's superior, or one's religion.

* ~~to~~ his J. Bentley - ^{its symptoms to} ~~to~~ ^{and - beyond} ~~could~~ ^{its} ~~have~~ ^{valued} ~~valued~~ ^{not} ~~that~~ ^{knowing} they deserved ^{more} his loyalty. What has been

Ther. L.

occurs 7 dual a multiple. all pairs
7 being hypnotized.

Jews who have a ^{2nd} loyalty to Germany! afraid (6
that it conflicts with their time. L - actually not
that - for they know in their hearts that it does not -
afraid that they might ^{chose} ~~cease~~ them with it -

(a) but one answer! Talk counsel of do thinking,
sound judgment, not 7 fears. Does that L. really
~~diminish~~ your time L? Does it interfere with your
fulfillment of all your duties of Amer. citizenship. If
it does not - then you must cast aside your
fears. Such fears undermine your capacity
for L - and deny you the exhibition of great
ideals and enterprises -

~~we should not unthinkingly~~
~~talk~~ ^{plan} ~~enterprises~~ in time. If
when what ~~you~~ mean is plan of enterprises, and
your time is prod. of patriotism in the new future.
Amer. democ. life does not demand a merged,
parochial loyalty - ~~and~~

7/1. One must not be afraid of his L - just because it
makes him different ~~(different identity)~~ from anyone found does
not want to be different. But the whole history of
civilization is the history of the achievements of men
and groups of men who dared to be different
if they had not been different - under the same banner
presented?

— "I know when there are no men — stand there to be a man"

They were always few in number and different /
Jews — immured — Fiero loyalties.

3312 - Ps. 119 ~~105-112~~ 105-112.

8/ We should not be ostentatious / one loyalty (Ashkenazi)

- old prejudiced parents - really less than -

- the letter on my be imposed on by false the + superficial standards - unworthy criteria of conduct

loyalty reaches deep down - inner peace - with and beauty - the solid virtue, the loyalty, character

9/ of fun - conflict in L -

Test: in cause to which a man is loyal.

A cause to which one's loyalty must -

(1) Universally good - really desirable - which

(2) the which you choose of your own free will - not

as chosen by you by tradition, custom, or

convention or your social circle - or a code

blatantly violated to -
Sincerity is not enough - a man may be loyal
to a bad cause - The app. of L may be perfect -
but the object will in the end be defeating it.

10) Loyalty - is not vanity or prejudice -

(8)

Race - highest ideals / race -

Country - apologist for all that's deficient - diseases

religion - ~~but~~ byot - intolerant - principles
- love others -

Self - conscience - selfishness -

Self which transcends the Ego.

- Develop myself - respect myself - fight

for my rights - and also others -

not to feel inferior - superior

L. to my humanity - in the image of God.