



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.

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Passover Sermon, 1945.

1) Some of our Holidays - round ideas.
 Across others - the shadow of a great personality - אברהם אבינו.
Passover - Moses -

2) Some religions - esp. ancient rel. of India, Babyl. Egypt, Greece
~~products~~ folk-creations. Products of imperfect, unenlightened
 of man's - man's instinctive adjustment to his world -
 With Moses - the first, great rel. personality emerges!

The great prophet. The great teacher - appears on scene -
 who by his ^{masterful} heart & mind, singly, re-interprets
 the beliefs & customs of his day - & gives them a new direction

This marks the beginning of ^{conscious} rel. reform and rel. progress
 Since Moses others - encounter - ^{Two-131} Confusion - Revelation - Jesus that

Moses ^{was} the first and greatest of them all
 Our rel. is not known as the Rel. of Moses - but
 the 50 12 - 50 12 - 50 12 - 50 12

3) A massive figure - whose shadow lies across the Bible,
 the Passover - the J. people - to this day

Mists of history envelope him! Identified with heroic epoch
1400 yrs. ago

In desert & wild - slaves - migrated there - for a time
 prepared to free - change of dynasty - enslaved - Hard tests
tribed tribes - love of freedom, divorced, not wholly
 extinguished -

Moses appeared - doomed to die - saved - ark - princess

The man who was destined to deliver - was himself delivered⁽²⁾
"When he grew up he went out to his brethren" - From
palace descended to herds, the slaves -
as his pride & loyalty. He chose loyalty!!

Saw their affliction - heavy mishlechts to lay under
burning of slaves - gilt -

Slew an Eq. - betrayed by a fellow. few - pld - exile
wilderness, in chain - long, great years of thinking
& dreaming - storing up energy

"For the wilderness, say the Arabs, there is nothing but Allah"
Wilderness is rich soil for the spirit, man. 3 great thl
came out, the wilderness

4/. In wilderness he was a shepherd - He learned, how
to be a shepherd of a people by being a shepherd of a
flock.

Tasted freedom - how is so free as the ^{nomad} nomad in the
wilderness.

5/. His time was soon to come! The time for his life work -
He soon had the call! God revealed - gave the
new spirit of his desert world - 20 - return
to human world / life - world, market &
slaves - & begin the little struggle of Emancipation

6. Moses hesitates - Knows hard role of a leader - Reeds (3)
"Who am I?" "I am not a man, and" What shall I
say to them? They will not believe me -
But a ^{young} leader cannot escape his destiny!

① His task two fold (a) convince a hard opinion to
let them go free (b) Jews - to want to go free!

7. His mission at first fails - Additional leaders -
promoted.

Perils - He exhorts his people. teaches. persuades - challenges
ancient hunger for freedom, ancient memories
ancient pride - The people arise! - March out!!

Pursued - Red Sea!

8. No freedom without law! Int. Sinai - Codes - 10 laws
permanently deeds, all the rules, sp. harvest & dates
prophetic judgment
"A Kingdom, priests & a holy nation"

9. People not prepared for freedom. Taint of slavery in their souls
"Satan's calf" - perils - Unfit for Promised Land
Moses after 40 yrs. brings the new generation to the
threshold. Then the Sagas his life ends! His
work is done! A leader must die with his
generation

10/ Upon Mt. Sinai - Angel Gabriel spread out his wings, Michael ⁽⁴⁾
a purple robe - Zagzagel - placed a worker pillar - &
God himself - descended & with a flame took Moses rod to
Horeb.

And so Moses died - And no man - replaces

11/ First Great Emancipation of Human Race - Particular
→ Freedom became the right of all people - not even
Heart of Hebrew prophecy - "to bring the prisoner from the
dungeons"

12/ Law given - Both written and law freed them

13/ A true leader : took his people - for just this - women
yielded to them - No bel! / They followed!

14/ Founder of J. history! In Abraham we have story
of a wandering tribe - with us the history, the J. nation
begins

15/ Crowned with Humility : When the man Moses was being
thundered, also all the men that were upon the face of the
earth"

People loved him - "Behold, God Jesus was Moses"

"The faithful shepherd!"

And the Shepherd Nathan - who became one of the greatest figures
of all times - would have asked for no greater tribute or
reward