



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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Succoth, 1945.

For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths, springing forth in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, and vines and fig-trees and pomegranates; a land of olive-trees and honey; a land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass. And thou shalt eat and be satisfied, and bless the lord thy God, for the good land which He hath given thee.

Among the Arabs there are no distinctions, traditional or natural except the unconscious power given a famous sheikh by virtue of his accomplishments: and they taught me that no man could be their leader except he ate the ranks' food, wore their clothes, lived level with them, and yet appeared better in himself.

Among nomads the poorest is actually the equal of the richest: all alike partake of the same food, wear the same coarse clothing, and inhabit the same primitively furnished dwelling, the tent

"Everything in the world may be endured, except only a succession of prosperous days," Goethe

5-456
1) 2 Expts. of 1/100 in Bible. - 2 Reasons for celebration.

① 1202:10 - 40 yrs. - across barren waste - oasis well - Temp. booths such as Bedouins build.

Reminded of wilderness - Desert - Wandering life

② Prokka 27 - Harvest time - Settled life in fruitful fields valleys & hill-sides of Pal. - 'milk & honey' - grateful for abundant yield of field & orchard & vineyard

Reminded of Sinner Land - of untroubled life of settled

2) In a sense - 2 motifs - Want & Plenty - Scarcity & abundance - Wandering & Rest - Adversity & Prosperity

By History we are reminded that both are realities in human life - עוֹלָם הַחַיִּים כְּעוֹלָם הַמָּוֶת

And we are taught how to face each.

3) The wilderness, thru which our ancestors passed, מִדְבָּר מִדְבָּר מִדְבָּר - "a land of drought & shadow of death."

Sinai Peninsula - largely a great barrens of gravel stone. Flint-land, wild and desolate.

Its Mts & gorges & volcanic plateaus are frequently swept by devastating sand-storms

Water is scarce & commonly brackish & bitter

40 yrs. - ancestors wandered - Never to forget that on beyond desert. Promised land - Hope -

(Intro to "Fa the Land")

Never to forget God's Providence - x100 - shelter.

4). In adversity - men - despair; complaints.

(a) 'Give us water to drink' -

262 10/11/11 -

(b) Better to have died in Egypt. -

x100 - Teaches us - that there is adversity - Angels -
Learn to hear them - Push on to Promised Land!

5). Prosperity - men - proud - boastful.

Wax fax + kick - Coarse + insensitive -

(Goethe)

(1) x100 - all that we have is of God - ^{energy} grateful

(2) Always possibility of drought - loss of fortune - disasters
netures, accident, loss of income.

The desert creeps in on the sown land.

Fertile soil turns into "dust bowl"

Permanent Home - a 2010 - Refugee -

Therefore - not to be Proud - grateful - charitable

6). Hardships are not calamities.

From desert experience - our people demand its things
From B'nai
partners for freedom - its sense of equality - its individualism

Invited back - nostalgia - its chambers - its simplicity - its un
corrupted life -

Pure faith - unshaken by association with Babel -

Honey-moon Brook. "I remember for thee the offerings of thy ⁽²⁾
youth, your bridal love, how thou followedst me in the
wilderness, in a land 'that was not seen'"
① Hope, ② Perseus and ③ Perseus

7/ Perseus need not corrupt - Civilization

Humble - satisfied - charming - seeking justice

