



## 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 V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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How can man find God, 1921.

21-8 1921.  
Spring

### How Can Man Find God

Men are religious, not because they know God, but because they feel God - instinctively, intuitively, directly. Some people will come to God after a long, hard-fought process of mental speculation, but their God will always remain a cold, intellectual creation - light but no warmth. But the God whom the heart intuitively divines amidst all the rush and confluence of the swift moving experiences of life is overpoweringly real and living and soul-satisfying.

Man finds God in the vast magnificence of nature, in its exquisite moments of overpowering might, or of sweet serenity. Man finds God in human striving after perfection, in the outreaching of his sympathies, in the awakening of his endless aspirations, in that inexplicable longing, in that pathetic need which man feels for God. But most often does man find God in the trials and experiences of his own life.

Some men must wait for some such soul-searching experience to bring them humbly to God. But some whose souls are more sensitive, find God in the quieter, humbler experiences of daily life as well. God can be found if men but seek Him in the gentle word that falls like dew upon a parched soul, in the eyes that beam a cheerful welcome to the lonely soul; in the hopes that thrill our mortal clay, in the heavenly aspirations of our adventuresome lives. God can be found in the love of a mother's kiss, and in the warm embrace of a child's tenderness; God can be found in the love of youthful hearts, in the pledge of faith, in the ~~renewed~~ vow of fidelity. God can be found in the tear of pity, in the grief we feel for other ~~men's~~ men's sorrow; in the sacrifices of man for man, in the death of heroes, in the martyrdom of saints. God can be found in all the struggles of our troubled lives, in all our heroic building upon the ruins of a thousand hopes. God can be found in the sorrow that ennobles and in the joy that inspires; God can be found in the humblest acts of our daily lives if we could but attune our souls to catch the sweet whisperings of the Infinite.