



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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The creed of a liberal, 1928.

THE CREED OF THE LIBERAL

quote from
see sermon
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"The faith of an untiring
liberal"

There is a creed which the untired and undaunted liberals of all time have lived by. It is this:

We believe in Man, in his slow, ascendent progress, in the autonomy of his spirit and in the primacy of his claims over the claims of all forms of human organization.

We believe in freedom - the fullest measure of freedom compatible with the fullest measure of responsibility.

We believe in authority - but only in authority sanctioned by reason and consent.

We believe that the only tools of social progress are education, experimentation and cooperation.

We believe that to be well-governed is not as important as to be self-governed; that values bestowed are not as desirable as values achieved. Hence, we reject all manner of milleniums proffered to us at the spear-point of dictatorship.

We believe that all truth is made manifest through the contact and clash of diverse opinions and that the very motive power of progress is the free exchange of ideas and the exercised privilege of non-conformity.

We believe in tolerance but not in indifference, in enthusiasm but not in fanaticism, in convictions but not in obsessions, in independence but not in isolation, in conflict but not in hate.

Abba Hillel Silver.

There is a creed which the untired and undaunted liberals of all time have lived by, and it is this:

We believe in Man, in his slow, ascendent progress, in the autonomy of his spirit and in the primacy of his claims over ^{the claims of} all forms of human organizations and activities.

We believe ^{in freedom — measure of} in the fullest freedom compatible with the fullest responsibility, ^{TP we believe} in authority sanctioned by reason and consent, ^{TP we believe that the tools are} and in social progress achieved through education, experimentation and cooperation.

We believe that to be well-governed is not as important as to be self-governed; that values bestowed are not as desirable as values achieved. Hence, we reject all manner of milleniums proffered ^{to us} at the spear-point of dictatorship.

We believe that all truth is made manifest through the contact and clash of ^{manifest and} diverse opinion and that the very motive power of progress is ~~the privilege of non-conformity~~ and the free exchange of ideas ^{and the exercised privilege of non-conformity}.

We believe in tolerance but not in indifference, in enthusiasm but not in fanaticism, in convictions but not in obsessions, in independence but not in isolation, ^{in conflict} but not in hate.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

The Creed of a Liberal

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Nov. 21-'29

THERE is a creed which the untired and undaunted liberals of all time have lived by. It is this:

We believe in Man—in his slow, ascendent progress, in the autonomy of his spirit, and in the primacy of his claims over the claims of all forms of human organization.

We believe in freedom—the fullest measure of freedom compatible with the fullest measure of responsibility.

We believe in authority—but only in authority sanctioned by reason and consent.

We believe that the only tools of social progress are education, experimentation, and co-operation.

We believe that to be well governed is not as important as to be self-governed; that values bestowed are not as desirable as values achieved. Hence we reject all manner of millenniums proffered to us at the spearpoint of dictatorship.

We believe that all truth is made manifest through the contact and clash of diverse opinions and that the very motive power of progress is the free exchange of ideas and the exercised privilege of nonconformity.

We believe in tolerance but not in indifference, in enthusiasm but not in fanaticism, in convictions but not in obsessions, in independence but not in isolation, in conflict but not in hate.

12. Temple Bulletin - March 9-29

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THE FAITH OF AN UNTIRED LIBERAL

There is a Creed which the untired and undaunted Liberals of all time have lived by. It is simply this:

We believe in MAN, in his slow, ascendant progress, in the autonomy of his spirit, and in the primacy of his claims over the claims of all forms of human organization.

We believe in FREEDOM, the fullest measure of freedom, compatible with the fullest measure of responsibility.

We believe in AUTHORITY, but only in Authority sanctioned by Reason and Consent.

We believe that the only tools of Social Progress are Education, Experimentation and Cooperation.

We believe that to be well-governed is not as important as to be self-governed; that values bestowed are not as desirable as values achieved. Hence we reject all manner of milleniums proffered to us at the spear-point of dictatorship.

We believe that all Truth is made manifest through the contact and clash of diverse opinions, and that the very motive power of Progress is the free exchange of ideas, and the exercised privilege of non-conformity.

We believe in TOLERANCE, but not in Indifference, in enthusiasm but not in fanaticism, in conviction but not in obsessions, in independence but not in isolation, in conflict but not in hate.

—Abba Hillel Silver.

A LIBERAL'S CREED

There is a creed which the untired and undaunted liberals of all time have lived by. It is this:

We believe in Man, in his slow, ascendant progress, in the autonomy of his spirit and in the primacy of his claims over the claims of all forms of human organization.

We believe in freedom—the fullest measure of freedom compatible with the fullest measure of responsibility.

We believe in authority—but only in authority sanctioned by reason and consent.

We believe that the only tools of social progress are education, experimentation and co-operation.

We believe that to be well-governed is not as important as to be self-governed; that values bestowed are not as desirable as values achieved. Hence, we reject all manner of millenniums offered to us at the spear-point of dictatorship.

We believe that all truth is made manifest through the contact and clash of diverse opinions and that the very motive power of progress is the free exchange of ideas and the exercised privilege of non-conformity.

We believe in tolerance but not in indifference, in enthusiasm but not in fanaticism, in convictions but not in obsessions, in independence but not in isolation, in conflict but not in hate.

—Abba Hillel Silver.

LOUISVILLE

Unitarian