



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

Reel
175

Box
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The voice of the Temple, 1931.

(1931)
from sermon
365 folder

THE VOICE OF THE TEMPLE

Our age is filled with discontent and unhappiness, with the threats of war, the mutterings of revolution and vast moral confusion. Politically nations are in turmoil. Economically the world is in the grip of depression. Morally mankind is in a whirl. Men seem unable to discover the few, strong, simple certainties upon which to build a positive and tranquil spiritual life.

To a weary world, lost in doubt and disillusionment, the Spirit of the Temple proclaims anew the ancient message of its prophetic faith.

Nothing which has transpired in the realm of human thought or in human experience necessitates the abdication of its fundamental teachings.

It proclaims today, as of yore, the dogma of human progress and the value of human ideals.

It knows the evils which beset human life and all its sad limitations. But it also knows that the ultimate victory belongs to goodness and not to evil, to life and not to death. Through the valley of the shadow of death it beholds human life advancing triumphantly, singing the proud song of man's ascent.

It speaks to men today, as in ancient days, of God, Whose worship is justice, love and humility.

Of man, whose noblest achievement is character.

Of a Moral Law which sublimates life without falsifying it, which reconciles man's hunger for freedom with social responsibility, which gives nobility to human existence by summoning man to self-perfection.

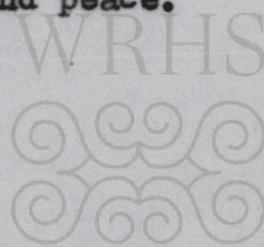
Of Truth, the beginning of which is reverence of God and of man fashioned in the image of God.

Of Beauty, whose sublimest expression is the beauty of holiness.

Of Goodness whose foundation is righteousness and love of mankind.

Of Human Brotherhood, freed from the dark heritage of racial conceit, national chauvenism, religious bigotry and the shame of war.

Of these things the Temple speaks today, out of its ancient wisdom and the accumulated experience of generations of men who walked with God and found peace.



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THE VOICE OF THE TEMPLE

Our age is filled with discontent and unhappiness, with the threats of war, ~~and~~ ^{the} mutterings of revolution and vast moral confusion. Politically nations are in turmoil. Economically the ~~whole~~ world is in the grip of depression. Morally mankind is in a whirl. ~~Old standards are vanishing.~~
New standards have not yet been ~~adopted~~. Men seem unable to discover the few, strong, simple certainties upon which to build a positive and tranquil, spiritual life.

72 To a weary world, lost in doubt and disillusionment, the ^{spirit of the} Temple proclaims anew the ancient message of its prophetic faith. Nothing which has transpired in the realm of human thought or in human experience necessitates the abdication of ~~the central convictions of this faith~~ ^{its ~~basic~~ fundamental teachings}.

48 It proclaims today, as of yore, the dogma of human progress and the value of human ideals.

It knows the evil, ^{best human} which ~~there is~~ in life and ^{all} its sad limitations. But it also knows that the ultimate victory belongs to goodness and not to evil, to life and not to death. Through the valley of the shadow of death, ^{it beholds} human life advances ^{up} triumphantly, singing the proud song of man's ^{ascent,} ~~ascent~~.

71 As long as man can carve out of the jungle gleaming cities of homes, temples, schools and gardens, as long as he can hew order out of chaos, fashion sound into music and clay into beauty, as long as he can refine his instincts into ever nobler motives and organize his world after ever higher patterns of truth and justice, so long may man feel free, privileged and rewarded upon this earth.

94 The voice of the Temple speaks to man ^{to-day as in ancient days} ~~and~~ of God, Whose worship is justice, love and ~~humility~~.

31 of man, ~~whose~~ ^{highest good is} ~~character~~ ^{are} whose noblest achievement is ~~the~~ character.

by its ~~challenge to~~
summarizing men
to

30 of a Moral Law which sublimates life without falsifying it, which
reconciles man's hunger for freedom with a ~~compulsion~~ ^{the social} responsibility
and which gives nobility to human existence ~~led by its mandates of loyalties~~
to ~~ideals and the duty of self-perfection~~ ^{its mandates of upward} self-perfection
of Truth, the beginning of which is reverence of God and of ~~man~~ ^{man who is} fashioned
in the image of God. ~~man~~ ^{Man}

40 Of Beauty, whose sublimest expression is the beauty of holiness.

Of Goodness, whose foundation is righteousness and love of ~~man~~ ^{wanting}.

44 All these things the Temple speaks ^{to-day, out} of its ancient wisdom, and the
accumulated experience of generations. ^{of men who walked} ~~with god~~ ^{ways}
and found peace.

of Human Brotherhood, ^{freed from the dark heritage} ~~from which all~~
~~of~~ of racial ^{AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES} ~~concern~~, national
chauvinism, religious bigotry, and
~~are~~ ~~the~~
the shame of war.

THE VOICE OF THE TEMPLE



ABRAHAM SILVERMANKIND is in a

whirl. Men seem unable to discover the few, strong, simple, certainties upon which to build a positive and tranquil spiritual life.

To a weary world; lost in doubt and disillusionment, the Spirit of the Temple proclaims anew the ancient message of its prophetic faith.

Nothing which has transpired in the realm of human thought or in human experience necessitates the abdication of its fundamental teachings.

It proclaims today, as of yore, the dogma of human progress and the value of human progress.

It knows the evils which beset human life and all its sad limitations. But it also knows that the ultimate victory be-

longs to goodness and not to evil, to life and not to death. Through the valley of the shadow of death it beholds human life advancing triumphantly, singing the proud song of man's ascent.

It speaks to men today, as in ancient days, of God, whose worship is justice, love and humility.

Of man, whose noblest achievement is character.

Of a Moral Law which sublimates life without falsifying it, which reconciles man's hunger for freedom with social responsibility, which gives nobility to human existence by summoning man to self-perfection.

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NEWS 11-27-31