



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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National Conference of Christians and Jews, 1963.

Heavenly Father,

Upon all who are gathered here we invoke Thy blessing.

~~Gratefully~~ *Gratefully*

We honor tonight ~~by~~ *in so doing we pay homage to the* a distinguished leader of a great sister-nation, and ~~but the sacred~~ cause which this leader has, through many years in the ~~assemblies of men and in the~~ *sacred* councils of nations, served in faithfulness and ~~high~~ devotion, the cause of human brotherhood and international friendship.

We know, O Heavenly Father, that ~~no one's~~ *a man's own* wisdom is not adequate for the complex ~~and difficult~~ *and tangled* problems of our day. Oft-times we grope in darkness and confusion. Our only hope lies in remaining loyal to the ~~eternal~~ moral principles which were given to us by the seers and prophets of old and our only guides are ~~the~~ *the* men of good-will, ~~the~~ *everywhere* men of vision and courage who seek peace and pursue it, ~~and who love~~ *and* ~~their fellow-men and would help them in all their ways.~~

Bless this Conference of Christians and Jews ~~which~~ *whose aim*

is to ~~fosters~~ friendship between all men of whatever faith or color, ~~they may be.~~

We find ourselves ~~to-day~~ *to-day* O Heavenly Father, lost ~~today~~ in dark and dangerous ways of civil strife and bitter encounter. Help us to find the light to lead us to the ways of reconciliation, ~~the ways~~ of justice and humanity.

O, God of our fathers, ~~we~~ *our two nations* have been richly blessed ~~by~~

~~nation~~, not because of any merit in ourselves, but because of Thine abundant goodness. Our spacious land ~~is~~ *are* planted in the good soil of freedom, and out of the bounty of our earth and the labors of our people,

power and wealth have come to us in satisfying measure. Give us the grace to employ our power responsibly and our resources benevolently. Grant us the wisdom to permit all our citizens to share in the blessings of ~~this glorious~~ ^{our goodly} land and ~~its~~ ^{their} fine institutions. For only through righteousness is a nation exalted, and only through tolerance and fellowship is its harmony preserved.

Cleanse the souls of all our people of ~~all~~ ^{dark} prejudice and narrow-mindedness and prepare their hearts, for the new ~~order~~ ^{day} ~~and the new world order~~ ^{world freedom and peace} which the two great nations, here represented, are striving to achieve.

Bless all who ~~will~~ labor here with heart and mind to preserve our cherished traditions, to strengthen our democratic institutions and to fulfill the rich promise of ~~American life~~ ^{our peoples' lives}. May the meditations of ~~their~~ ^{our} hearts find favor in Thy sight, and establish Thou the work of ~~their~~ ^{our} hands.

Amen.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

National Conference of

Christians and Jews

Sunday, September 29, 1963