



Daniel Jeremy Silver Collection Digitization Project

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The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

MS-4850: Daniel Jeremy Silver Papers, 1972-1993.

Series II: Subject Files, 1956-1993, undated.

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109

CBS News, correspondence, 1969.

CBS NEWS

A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The dates we plan for our GENERATIONS APART broadcasts are the following Tuesdays, 10:00 to 11:00 pm (EST):

May 20 - Part I

May 27 - Part II

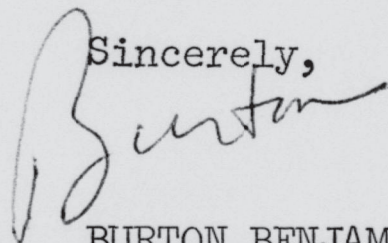
June 3 - Part III

Unhappily, none of them fall on Sunday.

I do hope very much that you will phone me when you come to New York. I will see you. I can be reached on 765-4321, Ext. 2785.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



BURTON BENJAMIN
Senior Executive Producer

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

February 5, 1969

September 15, 1969

Mr. Burton Benjamin
Senior Executive Producer
CBS News
524 West 57th Street
New York, New York 10019

Dear Burton:

I know that you are not the correct address but CBS is such an imposing title - - The Temple is sending some twenty eighth-grade youngsters to New York from October 30 - November 2nd. The purpose is to visit Jewish New York and to see a full-blown Jewish community in operation. Their schedule will run from the Jewish Museum and Jewish Theological Seminary to the Ethiopic Synagogue in Harlem and to the Lubavitcher Rebbe.

They are coming in on an early dinner flight that Thursday and will arrive in Manhattan sometime around 7 to 7:30 p. m. I don't know if CBS runs tours at 8 p. m. or later. But, if they do we would be happy to have the group visit. Their interests are more on the serious side of newscasting than in seeing a variety show, though they'd go, of course.

I plan to be in New York on Monday, September 29th and would love to have lunch with you. This self-invitation has nothing to do with the other request.

With all good wishes for the New Year, I remain,

Sincerely,

DJS:mgm

Daniel Jeremy Silver

CBS NEWS

A Division of Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc.
524 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019
(212) 765-4321

Dear Rabbi Silver:

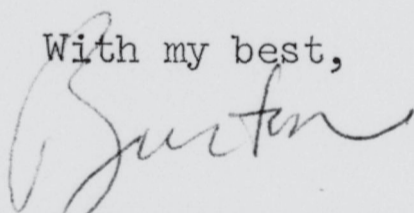
I am sorry to have taken so long to reply to your letter of September 15th. I have been out of town on location and I am going to Texas for the entire week on Sunday.

I will be back in the office on the 29th, and I would like very much to have lunch with you on that day. Would the Algonquin at 12:30 p.m. be agreeable? Drop me a line and my secretary will make a reservation. It is on 44th Street between 5th and 6th Avenues, and we will have lunch in the Oak Room.

I am afraid that the tour possibilities here are too slim to be worthwhile. There are no tours of our Broadcast Center per se, and at 8:00 p.m. nothing is going on here but the transmission of programs, most of them produced in Hollywood. New York productions outside of News are very thin, and consequently there is not much of interest in this building to merit regular tours.

I'll be looking forward to seeing you on the 29th.

With my best,



BURTON BENJAMIN
Senior Executive Producer

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver
The Temple
University Circle at Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

September 19, 1969

September 23, 1969

Mr. Burton Benjamin
CBS News
524 West 57th Street
New York, N. Y. 10019

Dear Burt:

I will plan to meet you at the Algonquin at 12:30
on Monday. I will meet you at the Oak Room.
Have a pleasant visit to Texas.

Sincerely,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

October 1, 1969

Mr. Burton Benjamin
CBS News
524 West 57th Street
New York, N. Y. 10019

Sr. Executive Producer

Dear Burt:

I enjoyed so much our luncheon. Many thanks.

You asked that I outline my suggestion for a television program on Jerusalem. It would be built around the fact that August, 1970 will mark the 1900th anniversary of the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans. In the Jewish tradition the annual fast day of Tisha b'Av (August 11, 1970) commemorates the day on which the walls of Jerusalem were breached and The Temple set on fire.

My idea would be to peg the program to this anniversary and to center it on the history of Jerusalem till that fateful day in 70 A. D.

Briefly, Jerusalem was a small Jebusite town until conquered and occupied by King David in the 10th century B. C. David made over Jerusalem as his private royal demesne. It was the base of his power. As it did not belong to any one tribe it was a natural capitol for the first king of all the tribes. David also brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem and Solomon built here the First Temple thus establishing the city's tradition as the Holy City. Jerusalem was besieged several times but captured only once in 586 B. C. by Nebuchadnezzar. Jerusalem then remained largely uninhabited for about 50 years until the Persians allowed the exiles to return. From 536 to 70 A. D. Jerusalem was the capitol and center of the Jewish World.

Enough excavation has gone on and enough familiar land marks are visible for an attractive program. Just a few months ago Katherine Kenyon, an indomitable English lady, and quite a character, completed her excavations of the early city. She would make a wonderful television personality. Dr. Benjamin Mazar, chairman of the Department of Archaeology at Hebrew University is now conducting important excavations along the western and southern walls of the Temple mount. He has uncovered the plaza which King Herod built in the first century B. C. to join the Temple mount with the residential city. Mazar is a mine of information, as well as a personable and attractive elder statesman, the brother-in-law of the first President of Israel, Yitzhak ben Zvi and he would, I am sure, be delighted to cooperate. Not only does the Israel Museum display a veritable treasure trove of historical objects relating to Jerusalem's history but there is a three or four acre scale model of the city as it appeared in the first century done two years ago by extremely competent architects and archaeologists. This scale model is something like Muduradam and not at all a Walt Disney piece of fancy. It could be used effectively. Further I could imagine Kenyon, Mazar or some other personality accompanying the cameras up the Temple mount, along the excavation sites and into the Israel Museum.

My feeling is that this show ought to avoid the familiar tri-faith "holy" city approach and concentrate on the Biblical history of the most historical city in the world - on the original Jewish history of Jerusalem. I have written some material on the new archaeological finds and would be happy to help you out in any way I can and to put you in contact with those on the spot who, I am confident, will be glad to cooperate: Dr. Abraham Biran, senior administrator of the Department of Antiquities; Dr. Benjamin Mazar; Mayor Teddy Kolleck of Jerusalem,

a serious archaeological buff; L. Y. Rahmani, curator of the Department of Antiquities who excavated the more important tombs of Jerusalem of this period, etc.

If the idea seems to have merit, I will be happy to help in any way that I can. In any case I will drop you a line the next time Adele comes with me to New York. I should like for the four of us to get together.

Sincerely,

DJS:rvf

