

Rabbi David H. Aaron, Ph.D., *Etched in Stone: The Emergence of the Decalogue* (T & T Clark Publishing). Examining the question of when the Decalogue versions were written and why, utilizing a variety of critical methods and literary approaches that have heretofore been under-explored. The main focus of this book is the literary phenomenon known as "the tablets" and how it functioned within the broader narrative. Aaron argues not only that the inclusion of the Decalogue texts was quite late in the development of the Pentateuch's canon, but that their integration preserves vestiges of highly charged ideological conflicts that were inadvertently neutralized by the rather bland and generic ethical precepts coined among its verses.

Dr. Eugene B. Borowitz, *The Talmud's Theological Language-Game, a Philosophical Discourse Analysis* (Jewish Philosophy Series for the State University of New York Press). All later Judaism is based upon rabbinic teaching, most authoritatively presented in the Babylonian Talmud. This work intermingles two forms of rabbinic discourse, the one required – *halakhah* (essentially law) – and the other only highly commended – *aggadah* (anything that's not *halakhah*). Statements about Jewish belief are *aggadah* and therefore exhibit a notorious liberty of content and expression. This has given rise to the vexing problem of the logic which gives the *aggadah* its integrity and holds its diverse content together. This book seeks to resolve that quandary.

Jonathan Brown and Laurence Kutler, *Nelson Glueck: Biblical Archaeologist and President of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion* (HUC Press, 2005). A documentation of Nelson Glueck's achievements and journey in the land of the Bible and 20th-century American Reform Judaism (see pages 38-39).

Dr. Edward Goldman and Dr. Richard S. Sarason, eds., *Hebrew Union College Annual*, Vol. 75. This volume of 11 scholarly articles that focus on all areas of Judaic, biblical, and semitic studies includes **Dr. Dvora E.**

Weisberg's article, "Desirable But Dangerous: Rabbis' Daughters in the Babylonian Talmud."

Dr. Alyssa Gray, *A Talmud in Exile: The Influence of Yerushalmi Avodah Zarah on the Formation of Bavli Avodah Zarah* (Brown University, 2005). Arguing that the redactors of tractate Avodah Zarah of the Babylonian Talmud knew and relied upon the earlier tractate Avodah Zarah of the Jerusalem Talmud, this book builds its case by examining the structure and organization of the two tractsates overall, as well as by analyzing specific textual parallels (see page 36).

Dr. Joel Hoffman, *In the Beginning: A Short History of the Hebrew Language* (paperback edition, NYU Press). A study of the history of Hebrew, illuminating how the written Hebrew record has survived, explaining the significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls and ancient translations, and analyzing clues about how the words of the Bible were actually pronounced.

Dr. Lawrence A. Hoffman, ed., *Rethinking Synagogues: A New Vocabulary For Congregational Life* (Jewish Lights Publishing, forthcoming Summer 2006). A retrospective on what has been learned during ten years of Synagogue 2000's work with close to 100 synagogues across all movements. Drawing on Jewish sources and the secular disciplines of philosophy, sociology, and economics, it provides a new way to think about synagogue life and offers activities and topics for conversation to engage synagogue boards and committees.

Professor Sara S. Lee and Mary C. Boys, *In the Presence of the Other* (Jewish Lights Publishing). An instructive look at pioneering efforts to heal religious conflict through inter-religious education, this book explores the friendship and working relationship that developed between the authors and their shared goal to prepare educational leaders in their communities to address the issues dividing Jews and Christians.

Professor Sara S. Lee and Nancy Prager Levin, *Bridging the Gap: The Power of Mentoring for Creating Teaching Excellence in Congregational Education, A Practical Guidebook for Congregational Educators* (The Rhea Hirsh School of Education, Summer 2006). Based on a pilot project, the guidebook provides a plan for congregational educators who wish to establish and support a mentoring program at their schools.

Dr. Dalia Marx, Tamar Duvdevani, Maya Leibovich, Alona Lisitsa, eds., *Parashat Mayim* (Forthcoming 2006). A compilation of Hebrew liturgical texts, both old and new, to be used for *twilah* (ritual immersion) to enable men and women to cleanse their bodies, hearts, and souls before holidays and joyous occasions and at times of loss, violence, and spiritual need.

Jean Bloch Rosensaft, ed., *Carol Hamoy: Psalm Song* (HUC-JIR Museum, 2005). Exhibition catalogue includes essays by E.M. Broner, **Rachel Gurevitz (NY '06)**, **Laura Kruger**, and **Michele Prince**.

Jean Bloch Rosensaft, ed., *Maty Grünberg, Selected Works 1966-2006* (HUC-JIR Museum, 2006). Exhibition catalogue includes essays by **Laura Kruger**, Natan Zach, and Menashe Kadishman.

Dr. Michael Zeldin, ed., *Journal of Jewish Education*, Vol. 72, no. 1 (Routledge, a Taylor & Francis Group). An interdisciplinary forum on research and scholarly issues in Jewish education, including curriculum and instruction, teacher preparation, Jewish identity development, history and philosophy of Jewish education, and the linkage between Jewish and general education.

Rabbi Gary P. Zola and Michael M. Lorge eds., *A Place of Our Own: The Rise of Reform Jewish Camping* (The University of Alabama Press). Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the first Reform Jewish educational camp in the United States (Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute, in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin), with essays by Donald M. Splansky, **Michael Zeldin**, and Jonathan D. Sarna.

Recent Faculty Articles of Note

Dr. Isa Aron, Sara Lee, and Dr. Michael Zeldin, "Contemporary Jewish Education" in Dana Kaplan ed., *The Cambridge Companion To American Judaism* (New York, Cambridge University Press, 2005): 145-168.

Rabbi Carole Balin, Ph.D., "The Call to Serve: Jewish Women Medical Students in Russia, 1872-1887" in *Polin*, Vol. 18 (special issue devoted to Jewish Women in Eastern Europe), 2005: 133-152.

Dr. Sarah Bunim Benor and Bernard Spolsky, "Jewish Languages" in Keith Brown, ed., *Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*, 2nd edition. Vol. 6. (Oxford: Elsevier, 2006).

Dr. Sarah Bunim Benor and Roger Levy, "The Chicken or the Egg? A Probabilistic Analysis of English Binomials" in *Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*, 82.2 (June 2006): 120-124.

Dr. Steven M. Cohen and Ari Y. Kelman, "Cultural Events and Jewish Identities: Young Adult Jews in New York," National Foundation for Jewish Culture (Spring 2006).

Dr. Tamara Cohn Eskenazi, "Implications for and from Ezra-Nehemiah" in Gary N. Knoppers, ed., *Conversation with W. M. Schniedewind, How the Bible Became a Book: The Textualization of Ancient Israel* (*Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 5, 2005).

Dr. Michael J. Cook, "Paul's Argument in Romans 9-11" in *Review and Expositor*, Vol. 103, Winter 2006: 91-112.

Dr. Alyssa Gray, "The Ministering Angels Told Me: Bavli Nedarim 20a-b and Its Medieval Interpreters" in Walter Jacob and Moshe Zemer, eds., *Sexual Issues in Jewish Law: Essays and Responsa* (Pittsburgh: Rodef Shalom Press, 2006): 31-81.

Dr. Yosi Leshem, "The Victory Song, Saul has smitten his thousands and David his ten thousands," (I Sam. 18:7) in *Beit Mikra*, (Spring 2005).

Rabbi Michael A. Meyer, "Liberal Judaism in Nazi Germany" in Moshe Zimmermann, ed., *Three Generations of Historians on*

Germans and Jews under The Nazi Regime (Spring 2006).

Dr. Philip E. Miller, "Rabbi Louis I. Newman" in *Rhode Island Jewish Historical Notes*, Vol. 14, No. 3 (November 2005): 444-454.

Dr. Stanley Nash, translation and commentary of "Qotso shel Yod" by Y.K. Gordon in *CCAR Journal* (Summer 2006).

Dr. Adam Rubin, "Hebrew Folklore and the Problem of Exile" in *Modern Judaism*, Vol. 25, No. 1 (February 2005).

Dr. Adam Rubin, "Jewish Nationalism and the Encyclopedic Imagination: The Failure (and Success) of Ahad Ha'am's Otsar Ha-Yahadut" in *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*, Vol. 3, No. 3 (November 2004).

Dr. Richard Sarason, A new introduction to a reprint by Joseph Heinemann and Jakob J. Petuchowski in *Literature of the Synagogue* (Gorgias Press, Spring 2006).

Cantor Benjie Ellen Schiller, "The Cantor's Spiritual Challenge: Defining 'Agency' in Prayer" in *Journal of Synagogue Music* (Fall 2005).

Dr. Dvora E. Weisberg, "Desirable But Dangerous: Rabbis' Daughters in the Bavli" in *Hebrew Union College Annual*, Vol. 75 (Summer 2006).

Rabbi Nancy H. Wiener, "Caring for Those Whose Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Vary" in Jack H. Bloom, ed., *Jewish Relational Care A-Z*, (Spring 2006).

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and HUC Annual web pages at
www.huc.edu

In Memoriam

Andrea Bronfman, beloved friend of the College-Institute, together with her husband, Charles, whose dedication to the family of the Jewish people has made her an inspiring example of Jewish leadership. Her commitment to the State of Israel and Jewish survival has been manifested in her personal and professional commitments throughout her life.

James O. Freedman, esteemed colleague, honored as the first Life-time Governor Emeritus in recognition of his care and concern for HUC-JIR and the Jewish people and all that he had achieved in his most extraordinary career.

Mike Grossman, dedicated member of the New York Board of Overseers, whose devotion to Jewish education and professional leadership endures as a source of inspiration.

Arthur Hertzberg, honorary alumnus of the College-Institute, whose visionary legacy as a renowned university professor, historian, and distinguished spokesperson for the Jewish people will endure. Dr. Hertzberg's Inaugural Dr. Fritz Bamberger Memorial Lecture is excerpted in *The Chronicle* 2005/Issue 65 at: www.huc.edu/chronicle/65



- "B'Chol Makom," a composition for cantor, choir and piano, commissioned for a special service in honor of Rabbi Sally Priesand's retirement (March 2006).
- "Mi Maamikim," a capella choral work, commissioned by Dr. Abba Borowich for the Zamir Chorale of New York, premiered in Merkin Hall (March 2005).
- "Zeh Hayom This is the Day," a composition for solo, choir and piano, commissioned by Cantor Fredda Mendelson (2005).