HOPE IN THE TIME OF PANDEMIC: AN INTERFAITH CONVERSATION

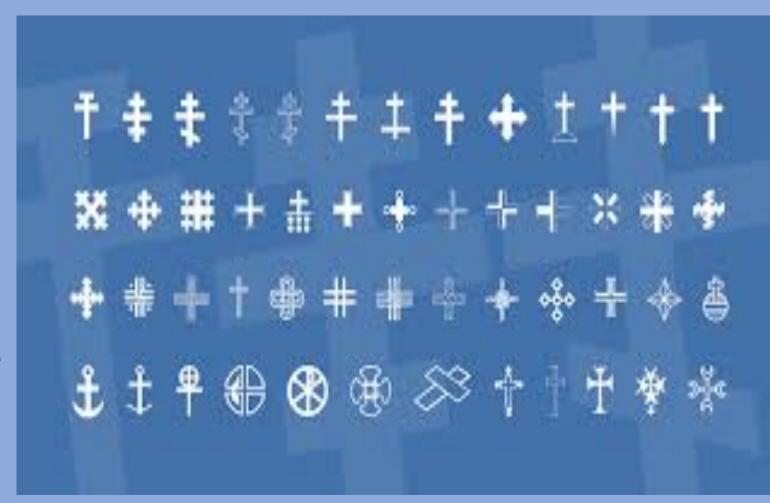
Sponsored by the Sandra & Irwin Mandel Fund Adath Jeshurun Congregation

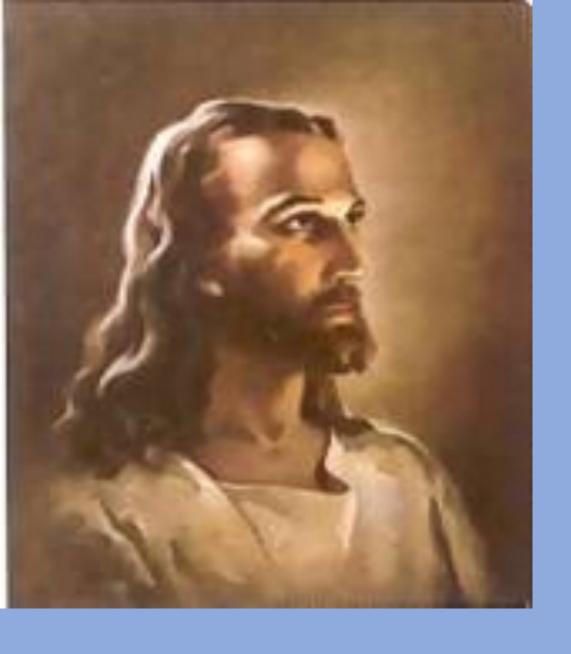
Hope in Christian Texts and Traditions

Jesus

The gospel accounts

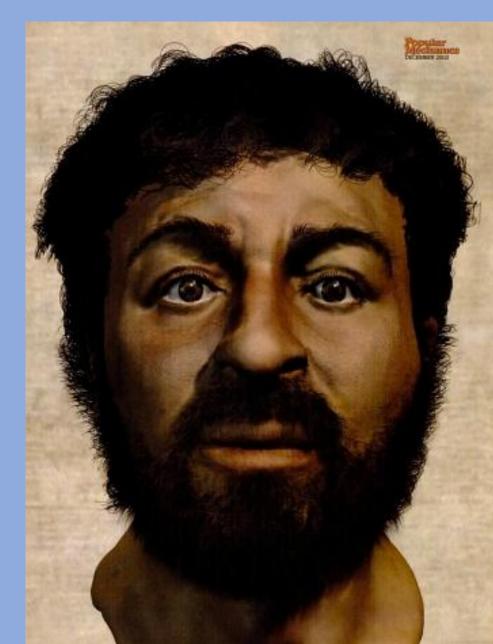
 Paul, apostle to the Gentiles





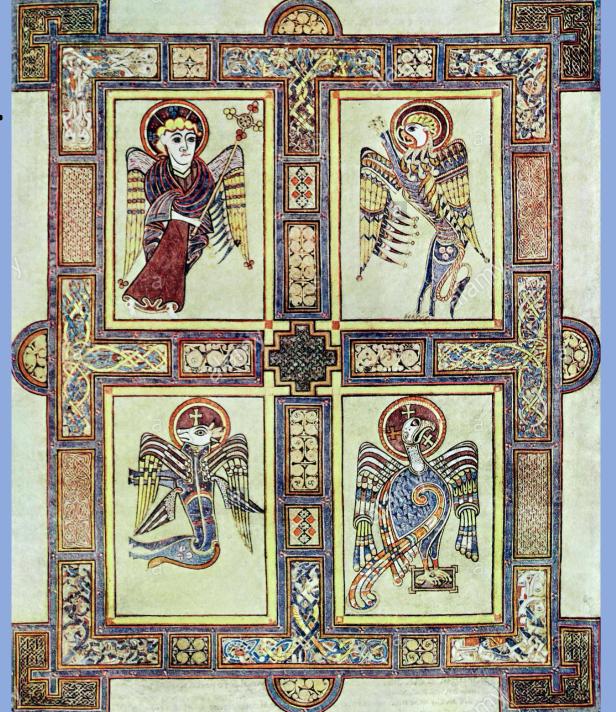
Warner Sallmen, 1892-1968

Richard Neave, BBC's "Son of God" 2001

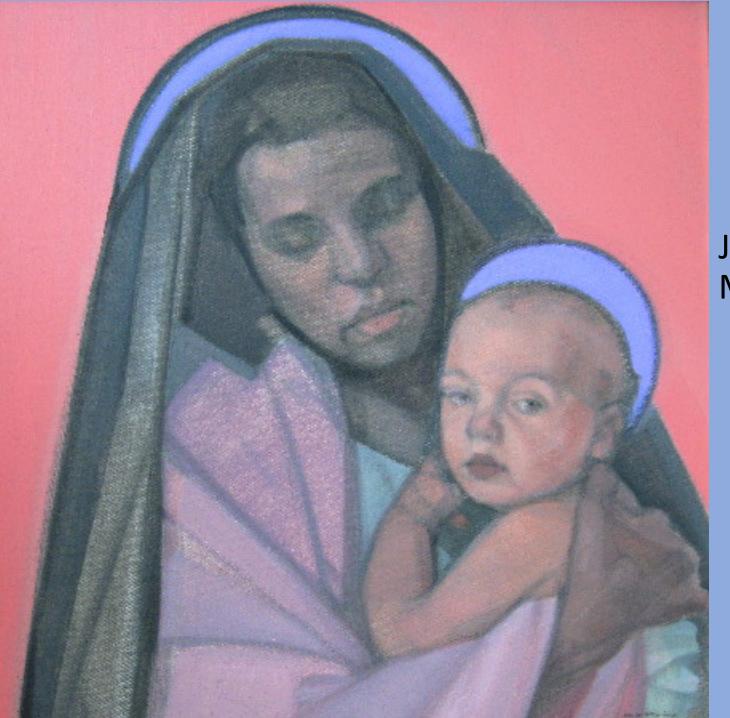


Four gospels...

Book of Kells, 9th Century

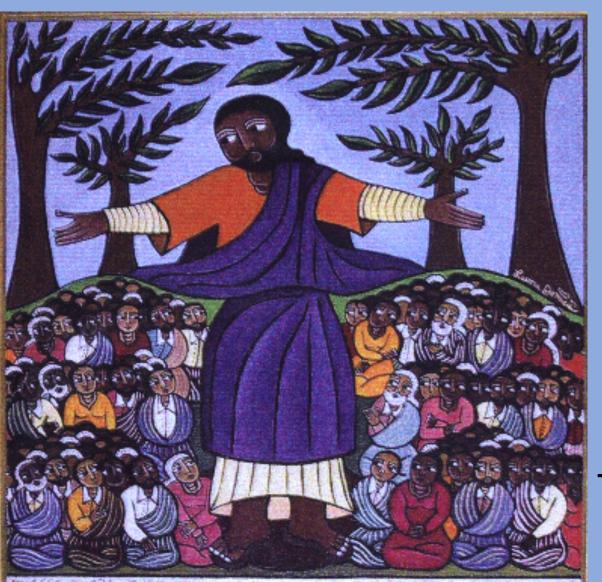


...one Jesus



Janet McKenzie

What happens when hope comes as a person?



He Qi-

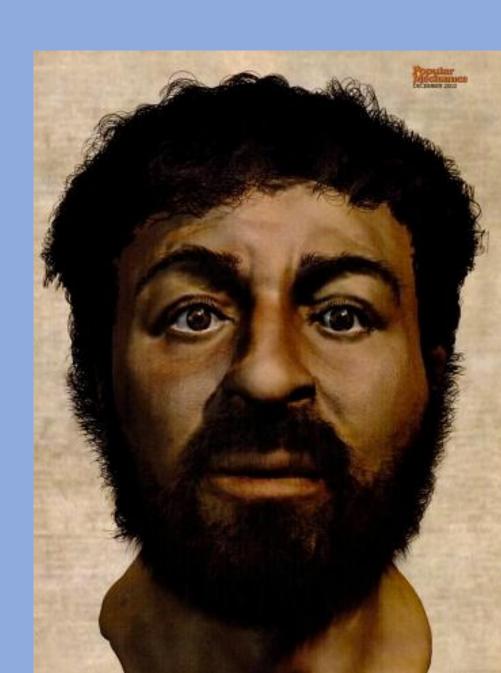


-Laura James

Who do people say that I am?

- Elijah
- John the Baptist

One of the prophets



When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him, He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

'The spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them,

'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' (Luke 4:16-21, NRSV)

Isaiah's checklist....

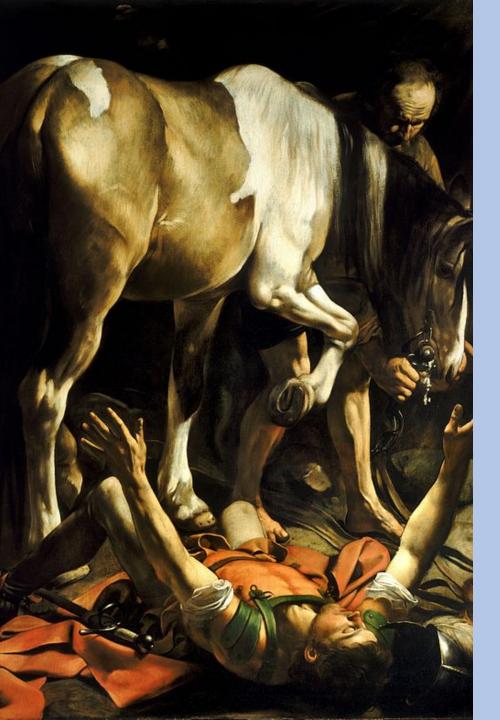
- Spirit of the Lord is upon him
- Anointed, baptized in the Jordan
- Recovery of sight to the blind
- Good news to the poor
- Release of captives.....?



- When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?'
 And he said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.'
 Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.'
- A second time he said to him, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?'
 He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.'
 Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.'
- He said to him a third time, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?'

 Peter felt hurt because he said to him a third time, 'Do you love me?'

 And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.'
 - Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.' (John 21:15-17, NRSV)



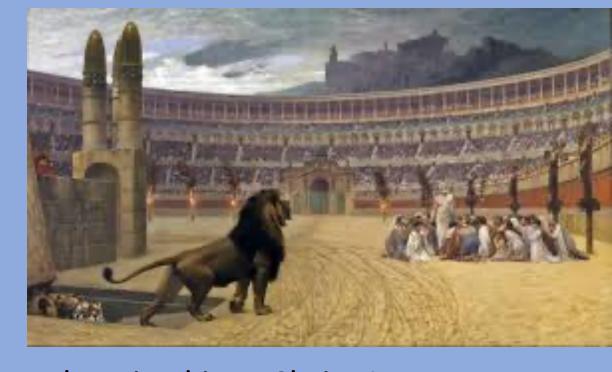
Paul, apostle to the Gentiles

Caravaggio, *Conversion of St. Paul,* 1601

Marks of mystery cults:

- U-shaped biography: comes down, goes up
- Rite of initiation
- Sacred meal

Rite of initiation....



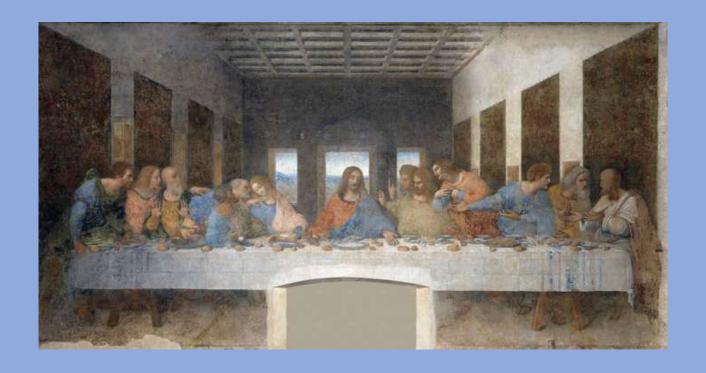
Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

Therefore, we have been buried with him by baptism into death,

so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of God the Father,

so we too might walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:3-4, NRSV)

Sacred meal....



'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand:

to this grace in which we stand;

and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings,

knowing that suffering produces endurance,

and endurance produces character,

and character produces hope,

and hope does not disappoint us,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

(Romans 5:1-5)

When I was a child,

I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child;

When I became an adult,

I put an end to childish ways.

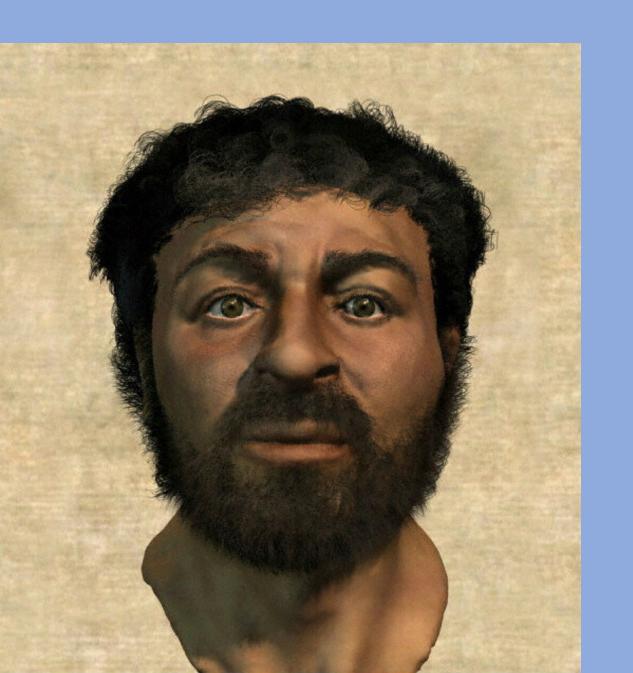
For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we shall see face to face.

Now I know only in part;

then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. (I Corinthians 13:11-13)

.... Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:27)

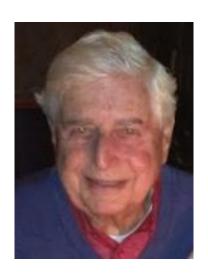


What happens to you when hope comes to you as a person?

Zoom Stretch Break



Please take 60 seconds to look away from your screens, stand up and stretch before we continue!



GERARD C. SMETANA
JUNE 22, 1932 – AUGUST 24, 2020

Show Sor

BY ADAM JACOT DE BOINOD

- * Snow kaniktshaq
- * No snow aputaitok
- To snow qanir, qanunge, qanugglir
- Snowy weather nittaatsuq, qannirsuq
- To get fine snow or rain particles kanevcir
- # First falling apingaut
- + Light falling qannialaag
- + Wet and falling natatgo naq
- In the air, falling qaniit
- Feathery clumps of falling snow qanipalaat
- * Air thick with snow nittaalag
- * Rippled surface of snow kaiyuglak
- Light, deep enough for walking katiksugnik
- · Fresh without any ice kanut
- * Crusty sillik
- * Soft for travelling mauyasiorpok
- Soft and deep where snowshoes are needed for travel – taiga
- * Powder nutagak
- Salty pokaktok

- Yupik in Eastern Siberia and Aleut in Alaska,
- * Wind-beaten upsik
- * Fresh nutaryuk
- * Packed aniu
- * Sharp panar
- Crusty that breaks under foot karakartanag
- + Rotten, slush on sea qinuq
- Best for building an igloo pukaangajuq
- # Glazed in a thaw kiksrukak
- * Watery mangokpok
- Firm (the easiest to cut, the warmest, the preferred) – pukajaw
- Loose, newly fallen which cannot be used as it is, but can provide good building material when compacted – arilogaq
- * That a dog eats aniusarpok
- * That can be broken through mauya
- * Floating on water qanisqineq
- * For building auverk
- * On clothes ayak
- * Beaten from clothes tiluktorpok

- * Much on clothes aputainnarowok
- * Crust pukak

The circumpolar people have many words for snow in all of its forms. Here is a compilation from the Inuit in Greenland and Canada, the

- Cornice, formation about to collapse – navcaq
- · On the boughs of trees qali
- Blown indoors sullarnig
- Snowdrift overhead and about to fall – mavsa
- Snowdrift that blocks something kimaugruk
- * Smoky drifting snow signa
- Arrow shaped snowdrift kalutoganiq
- · Newly drifting snow akelrorak
- Snowstorm pirsuq, pirsirsursuaq, qux
- Violent snowstorm igadug
- Blizzard pirta, pirtuk
- * Avalanche sisuuk, aput sisurtuq
- To get caught in an avalanche –
 navcite

Adam Jacot de Boinod - is author of The Meaning of

Tingo published by Panguin Benis.

HOPE די האפענונג

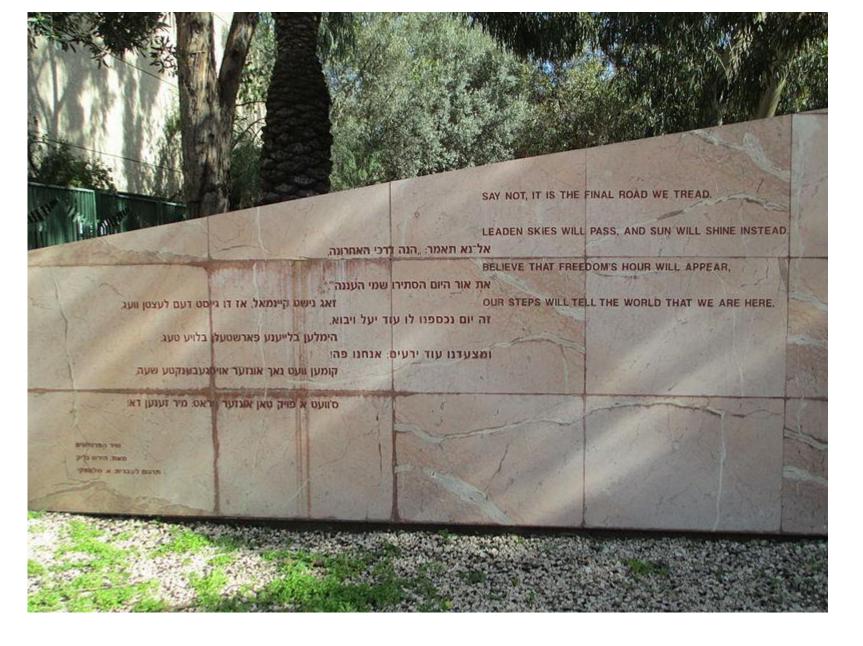
PROSPECT/OUTLOOK דער אויסקוק

DON'T DESPAIR זייט זיך נישט מיאש

HOLD ONTO FAITH האב (האט) אמונה

HOLD ON, KEEP YOURSELF TOGETHER האלט זיך

DON'T SAY, EVER, THAT YOU'RE WALKING THE FINAL PATH זאָג ניט קיין מאָל, אַז דו גייסט דעם לעצטן וועג





Hirsch Glick Vilna, Lithuania

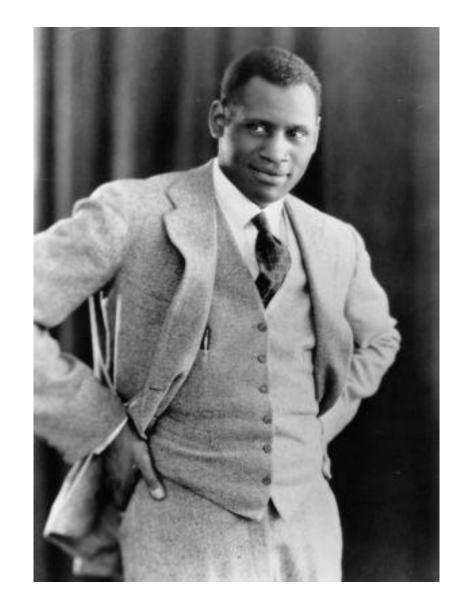
Nahalat Yitzhak Cemetery

(Givatayim)

בית העלמין נחלת יצחק



Jewish Partisans Memorial in Bat Yam [with the opening lyrics by Hirsch Glick in Hebrew & Yiddish]





Paul Robeson Chava Alberstein

תּלְנָה -- Tikvah תּוֹחֶלֶת -- Tohelet

ָהָוֹרֶנִי יְהוָה דַּרְכֶּרָ וּנְחֵנִי בְּאַרַח מִישׁוֹר לְּמַען שׁוֹרְרֶרִי

Show me Your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my watchful foes.

אַל־תַּתְּנֵנִי בְּנֶפֶשׁ צָּרֵי כִּי קָמוּ־בִי עֲדִי־שָׁקֶר וִיפָּחַ חָמְס:

Do not subject me to the will of my foes, for false witnesses and unjust accusers have appeared against me.

ָלָוּלֵֵאֹ הֶאֶמַנְתִּי לְרְאָוֹת בְּטוּב־יְהוָה בְּאֶרֶץ חַיְּים:

Had I not the assurance that I would enjoy the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living...

ָקוֹה אֶל־יְהֹוֶה חֲזַק וְיַאֲמֵץ לְבֶּךְ וְ<mark>ֹקוֹּה</mark> אֶל־יְהוֶה: קוֹה אֶל־יְהוֶה

Look to the LORD; be strong and of good courage! O look to the LORD!

Psalms 27:11-14

ַמיַ עָבְרוּ זִּמֹתַי נִתְּקוּ מֻוֹרָשֵׁי לְבָבְי:

My days are done, my tendons severed, the strings of my heart severed.

ָלַיְלָה לָיוֹם יָשֻׂימוּ אׁוֹר קָרָוֹב מִפְּנֵי־חְשֶׁךְ:

They say that night is day, that light is here—in the face of darkness.

ָאִם־אֲקַוֶּה שְׁאַוֹל בֵּיתֵי בַּהֹשֶׁךְ רְפַּדְתִּי יְצוּעֵי:

If I must look forward to Sheol as my home, and make my bed in the dark place,

ַלַשְּחַת ֻקָּרָאתִי אָבִי אֶתָּה אִמִּי וַאֲחֹתִּי לֶּרְמָּה:

I will say to the Pit, "You are my father," to the maggots, "Mother," "Sister"—

ָוְאַיֵּה אֵפְוֹ תִקְוַתֶּי וְתִקְוַתִּי וְתִיּן וְתִּיִּוּתִי מְי יְשׁוּרֶנָּה:

Where, then, is my hope? Who can see hope for me?

בַּדֵי שְׁאָל תַּרֶדְנָה אִם־יַחַד עַל־עָפֶר נְחַת:

Will it descend to Sheol? Must we, together, go down to the dust?

Job 17:11-16

אַחֲרֵי־כֵּן פָּתַח אִיּוֹב אֶת־פִּּיהוּ וַיְקַלֵּל אֶת־יוֹמְוֹ: וַיִּעַן אִיּׁוֹב וַיּאֹמְר:

Finally, Job cried out: God damn the day I was born!

ָיאֹבַד ָיוֹם אָוָּלֶד בְּוֹ וְהַלַּיְיָלָה אָׁמַֹּר הְּרָה גְּבֶר:

And the night that forced me from the womb.

Job 3:1-3

Translation by Stephen Mitchell

וָאמַר אָבַד נָצָחִי וְתוֹחַלְתִּי מֵיִהוָה:

I thought my strength and hope had perished before Adonai.

ַזְכֶר־עָנְיָי וּמְרוּדָי לַעֲנָה וָרְאֹשׁ:

To recall my distress and my misery was wormwood and poison;

זָכְוֹר תִּזְכָּוֹר ותשיח [וְתָשִׁוֹחַ] עָלַיִ נַפְּשִׁי:

Whenever I thought of them, I was bowed low.

ָזָאת אָשָׁיב אֶל־לְבָּי עַל־כֵּן אוֹחְיל:

But this do I call to mind, therefore I have hope:

ָּחַסְדֵּי יְהוָהֹ כִּי לֹא־תֶּמְנוּ כִּי לֹא־כָלָוּ רַחֲמֶיו:

The kindness of Adonai has not ended, God's mercies are not spent.

ָחַדָשִׁים לַבְּקָלִים רַבָּה אֱמוּנָתֶך:

They are renewed every morning— ample is Your grace!

ָחֶלְקָי יְהוָהֹ אָמְרָה נַפְּשָּׁי עַל־כֵּן אוֹתִיל לְוֹ:

"Adonai is my portion," I say with full heart; Therefore will I have hope.

ָטוֹב יְהוַה ׁ לְקוֹוֹ לְגֶפֶשׁ תִּדְרְשֶׁנּוּ:

Adonai is good to those who hope, to the one who seeks out God;

ָטוֹב וְיָחִיל וְדוּמָּם לִתְשׁוּעַת יְהוֶה:

It is good to wait patiently till rescue comes from Adonai.

Lamentations 3:18-26

עַל כֵּן נְקַנֶּה לְּךּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְרָאוֹת מְהַרָה בְּתִפְּאֶרֶת עָזֶּךְ לְהַעֲבִיר גִּלּוּלִים מִן הָאֶרֶץ וְהָאֱלִילִים כָּרוֹת יִכְּרֵתוּן לְתַקֵּן עוֹלָם בְּמַלְכוּת שַׁדִּי: וְכָל בְּנֵי בָשָׁר יִקְרְאוּ בִשְּמֵךְ לְהַפְנוֹת אֵלֶיךְ כָּל רִשְׁעֵי אֶרֶץ:

And so we put our hope in You, Adonai our God, to see your power revealed in its beauty, erasing that which is wicked, that which is false. To restore Creation under Your nurturing rule; that all life be able to call upon You, and even the evil will return to the light.

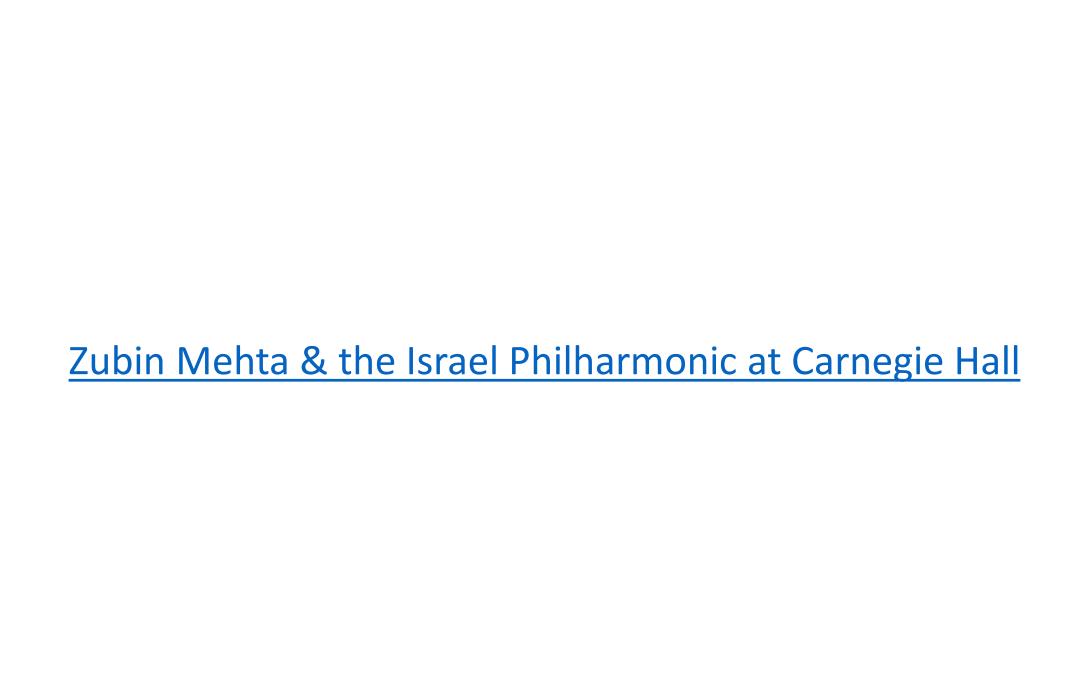


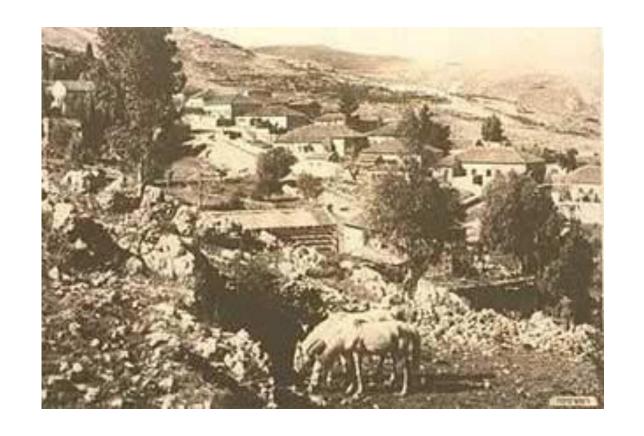
As long as in the heart within,
The Jewish soul yearns,
And toward the eastern edges, onward,
An eye gazes toward Zion.

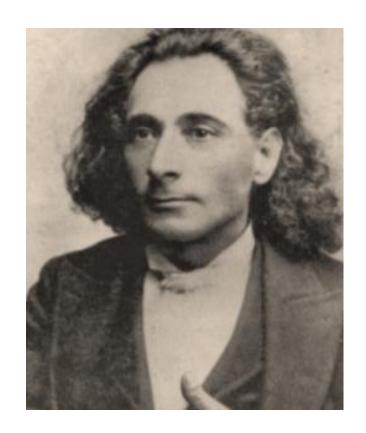
Our hope is not yet lost, The hope that is two-thousand years old, To be a free nation in our land, The Land of Zion, Jerusalem. Kol od balevav penimah, Nefesh yehudi homiyah, Ulefa-atei mizrach, kadimah, Ayin letziyon tsofiyah.

Od lo <u>aydah tikvateinu</u> Hatikva bat shnot alpayim, Lihyot am chofshi be-artzeinu, Eretz tzion, virushalayim. כּל עוֹד בַּלַבָב פְּנִיטָה נֶפֶשׁ יְהוּדִי הוֹכִוּיָה, וּלְפַאֲתֵי כִּוֹזְרָח, קָדִיכָּוּה, עִיִן לְצִיוֹן צוֹפִיָּה.

עוֹד לֹא אָבְדָה <mark>תִּקְּנְתֵנוּ,</mark> הַתִּקְנָה בַּת שְׁנוֹת אֵלְפַּיִם, להִיוֹת עַם חָפְשׁי בְּאַרְצֵנוּ, אֵרֶץ צִיוֹן וִירוּשָׁלִים.







Petah Tikvah 1878

Naftali Herz Imber



Title page of Naftali Herz Imber's Barkai (Jerusalem 1886)



Hatikvah (with its original words)

Smetana The Moldau

Carul cu boi Wagon & Oxen

ָּשִּׁיר הַמַּעְלָוֹת בְּשִׁוּב יֶהוָה אֶת־שִׁיבַת צֶיּוֹן הָוִינוּ כְּחֹלְמְים:

A song of ascents. When the LORD restores the fortunes of Zion —we see it as in a dream—

ָאָז יִמָּלֵא שְּׂחוֹק פִּינוּ וּלְשׁוֹנֵנוּ רְּבָּה אֲז יאׁמְרָוּ בַגּוֹיֵם הִגְדִּיל יְהוָה לַעֲשָׂוֹת עִם־אֵלֶּה: our mouths shall be filled with laughter, our tongues, with songs of joy. Then shall they say among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them!"

ֹהגְדִּיל יֲהוָה לַעֲשְׂוֹת עִמָּנוּ הָיֵינוּ שְּׁמֵחִים:

Adonai will do great things for us and we shall rejoice.

שׁוּבָה יֻהוָה אֶת־שבותנו [שְׁבִיתֻנוּ] כַּאֲפִיקִים בַּנֶּגֶב:

Restore our fortunes, Adonai, like watercourses in the Negeb.

ֹבזּרְעִים בְּדִמְעָּה בְּרָנָּה יִקְצְרוּ:

They who sow in tears shall reap with songs of joy.

ָבָּלוֹךְ וֵלֵבְ וּ וּבָכֹה נִשָּׂא מֶשֶׁךְ־הַֹּזָּרַע בְּאֹ־יַבָוֹא בְרְנַּהְ נֹשֵּׁא אֲלֻמֹּתְיו:

Though he goes along weeping, carrying the seed-bag, he shall come back with songs of joy, carrying his sheaves.

Anger and Compassion for Arab Justice Who Stays Silent During Zionist Hymn



Justice Salim Joubran, a Christian Arab, standing with hands folded in the center of the second row, set off a controversy by not singing Israel's national anthem, "Hatikva," at a ceremony. Israeli Government/European Pressphoto Agency

By Ethan Bronner









THE TIMES OF ISRAEL

Netanyahu blasts Hebrew U over report it nixed Hatikvah to avoid offending Arab students

Responding to censure, Jerusalem institution says graduation ceremony has followed same format for years, and that anthem is always aired at the state ceremonies it holds

By STUART WINER ✓

18 May 2017, 3:09 pm | Mg 5













View of the Hebrew University on Mount Scopus seen from Jerusalem's Old City, on June 10, 2015. (Hadas Parush/Flash90)

חמשרעשרה עליות

Chameish-Esreih Aliyot

שיר המעלות

Shir HaMaalot

עֲלְיָח אי Aliyah ז

עליה ב׳

Aliyah 2 עליה גי

Aliyah 3

עֻלְיָה ד׳ Aliyah 4

עליה הי

Aliyah 5

יְצַלְיָה וּי Aliyah 6

עליה ד׳

Aliyah 7

עליה חי

Aliyah 8

עליה טי

Aliyah 9 עליה יי

Aliyah 10

עליה י״א

Aliyah 11

צַלְיָה י״ב

Aliyah 12

עֲלְיָה י"ג Aliyah 13 עליַה י"ד

Aliyah 14

עליה ט״ו

Aliyah 15

On the Day My Daughter Was Born

בַּיּוֹם שֶׁבּוֹ נוֹלְדָה בָּתִּי לֹא מֵת אַף אִיש בְּבֵית הַחוֹלִים וְעֵל שֲעַר הַכְּנִיסָה הָיָה כָּתוּב: ״הַיּוֹם הַכְּנִיסָה לַכּהֲנִים מֻתֶּּרָת.״ וּמֵרֹב שָׁמֵחָה וּמֵרֹב שָׁמֵחָה

בַּסֶעָתִי עִם יִדִידִי אֶל גִּבְעוֹת שַעַר הַבַּיְא.

רָאִיבוּ עֵץ אָרֶן חוֹלֶה וְחָשוּף מְכָפֶּה רַק אִצְטְרָבָּלִים אֵין סְפֹּר וּצְבִי אָמֵר שֶׁצִצִים הָעוֹמְדִים לָמוּת מַצְמִיחִים יוֹתֵר אִצְטְרָבָּלִים מִן הַחַיִּים וְאָמֵרְתִּי לוּ: זֶה הָיָה שִּיר וְלֹא יָדַעְתָּ. אַף עַל פִּי שֶׁאַתָּה אִישׁ הַמַּדְּעִים הַמְדָיָקִים, עָשְיתָ שִּיר וְלֹא יָדַעְתָּ. אַף עַל פִּי שֶׁאַתָּה אִישׁ הַלוֹמוֹת עָשְיתָ שִׁיר וְהַשִּיב לִי: וְאַתָּה, אַף עַל פִּי שֶׁאַתָּה אִישׁ הַלוֹמוֹת לִשִּירָ.

On the day my daughter was born no one in the hospital died. So at the gate a sign was posted: "Kohanim may enter today." And it was the longest day of the year. So great was my joy that off I went with my good friend to the hills of Shaar HaGai.

We saw a bare and sickly pine tree covered only with countless cones. And Zvi said that trees on the verge of death yield more pine cones than the living. And I said to him: that was a poem — and you did not know it. Although you are a man of the exact sciences, you made a poem. And he responded: And you, although you are a man of dreams — you made an exact little girl with all the exact machinery for her life.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יָיָ, הַבּוֹטֵע בְּתוֹכֵנוּ אַהָבָה וְתִקְוָה Baruch atah, Adonai, hanotei-a b'tocheinu ahavah v'tikvah. Blessed are You, Eternal Presence, who implants within us love and hope for the future.

ON THE DAY MY DAUGHTER WAS BORN. By Yehuda Amichai (1924–2000).

KOHANIM MAY ENTER TODAY. Descendants of the ancient priests are forbidden by laws of ritual purity to be near the dead. In this poem about life and death, the poet "receives a sign," which leads to a moment of illumination: this is a day of pure, unrestrained joy, hope, and holiness.

SHAAR HAGAI. Literally, "Gate of the Valley," a forested area near Jerusalem.

Mishkan HaNefeshMachzor for the Days of Awe
Volume 2



אסור לכהן ליכנס תחת אהל שהמת תחתיו אפילו הוא גדול הרבה ואפילו לבית אחר

A Kohen is forbidden to enter beneath an overshadowed space even if it is very large, and is even forbidden to enter into an adjoining house.

Shulchan Arukh, Yoreh De'ah 371

בית דין צדק בני-ברק בראשות מרן העאכיר רכי שוי. נסים קרליץ שלישיא

44. populario a activa con 1940 il

י"א בתשרי תשע"ז

בס"ד

הודעה חשובה לכהנים

התקבל מידע כי החל משעה 05:00 בבוקר ל' בתשרי תשע"ז ועד ט"ז מרחשון תשע"ז - 01/11/2017 (ועד בכלל) כל הטיסות היוצאות מנתב"ג לכל היעדים יעברו בוודאי מעל בית הקברות בחולון. (טיסות נכנסות שאין בהן נפטרים מותרות)

כהנים שירצו לצאת בתאריכים אלו מהארץ, יוכלו לצאת בטיסה משדה התעופה בחיפה לקפריסין.

בשם ביה"ד מזכירות בית הדין

B'nai Barak Beit Din

IMPORTANT NOTICE for *Kohanim*

Please take note that beginning at 5:00 AM on Tishrei 30 until Heshvan 15, 5777 all flights leaving Ben Gurion airport to all destinations will pass over the Holon Cemetery. *Kohanim* wishing to travel on these dates should plan on flying from the Haifa airport to Cyprus [in order to connect to other destination outside of Israel].



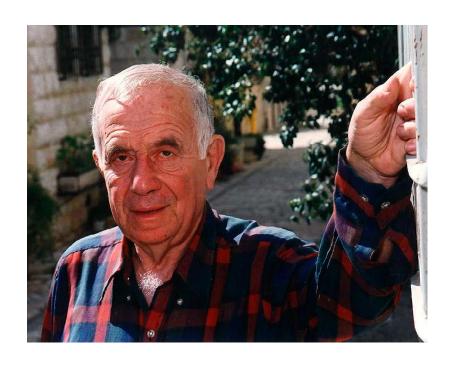


Judaean Hills west of Jerusalem, at Sha'ar Hagay

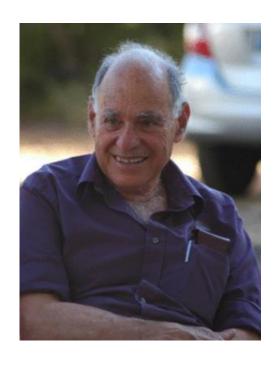




Alongside the road ascending to Jerusalem, at Sha'ar HaGay



Yehudah Amichai (1924-2000)



Zvi Sachs (1936-2007)



Emanuella Amichai (b. 1978)

בַּיוֹם שַבּוֹ נוֹלְדָה בִּתִי לֹא מֵת אַף אִישׁ

On the day my daughter was born

בַּיּוֹם שֶׁבּוֹ נוֹלְדָה בִּתִּי לֹא מֵת אַף אִישׁ בְּבֵית-הַחוֹלִים וְעַל שַׁעַר הַכְּנִיסָה הָיָה כָּתוּב ייהַיּוֹם הַכְּנִיסָה לְכֹהֲנִים מֻתֶּרֶתיי. On the day my daughter was born no one died in the hospital and at the entrance was written: "Today the Cohanim may enter."

וְזֶה הָיָה בַּיּוֹם הָאָרֹדְ שֶׁל הַשָּׁנָה. וּמֵרֹב שִׁמְחָה נָסַעְתִּי עִם יְדִידִי אֶל גִּבְעוֹת שַׁעַר הַגַּיְא. This was on the longest day of the year.

Out of great joy
I went with my friend to the hills of <u>Sha'ar</u>

Hagay.

רָאִינוּ עֵץ אֹנֶן חוֹלֶה וְחָשׂוּף מְכֻפֶּה רַקּ אִצְטֵרְבָּלִים אֵין סְפוֹר. וּצְבִי אָמֵר שָׁעֵצִים הָעוֹמְדִים לְמוּת מַצְמִיחִים יוֹתַר אִצְטֵרְבָּלִים מִן הַחַיִּים. וְאָמֵרְתִּי לוֹּי זֶה הָיָה שׁיר וְלֹא יָדעְתָּ. אַף עַל פִּי שָׁאַתָּה אִישׁ הַמַּדְעִים הַמְּדֻיָּקִים, עְשֹׁיתָ שׁיר. וְהַשׁיב לִיּ וְאַתָּה, אַף עַל פִּי שָׁאַתָּה אִישׁ חֲלוֹמוֹת עְשִׂיתָ יַלְדָּה מִדְיֵּקִת עִם כָּל הַמִּתִקְנִים הַמִּדְיָּקִים לֹחַיֵּיהָ.

We saw a sick, bare pine tree covered only with countless pine cones. Zvi said that trees about to die bear more cones than the vital ones. I said to him: That was a poem and you didn't even realize it. Even though you are a man of exact sciences you made a poem. He replied: And even though you are a man of dreams, you made a precise little girl with all the precise instruments for her life.

יהודה עמיחי

Yehudah Amichai

On the day my daughter was born no one died

On the day my daughter was born no one died in the hospital and at the entrance was written: "Today the Cohanim may enter."

This was on the longest day of the year.
Out of great joy
I went with my friend to the hills of <u>Sha'ar</u>
Hagay.

We saw a sick, bare pine tree covered only with countless pine cones. Zvi said that trees about to die bear more cones than the vital ones. I said to him: That was a poem and you didn't even realize it. Even though you are a man of exact sciences you made a poem. He replied: And even though you are a man of dreams, you made a precise little girl with all the precise instruments for her life.

- What are we to make of the poet's wanting to go to a "cemetery" to mark his child's birth?
- What is that conversation between Yehudah and Zvi all about?
- Of what importance is it that that conversation is said to have unfolded standing at *Sha'ar Hagay*, where they spotted a dying tree loaded with pine cones?
- Or that the poet's wife gave birth to a Bat Zekunim, a daughter of his old age (as the Torah would have spoken of her) on the longest day of the year? On a day when there had been no deaths....in the hospital?
- Or that the poet identifies the scientist as the real artist, and the scientist sees his poet friend as the genuine "mechanical engineer?"
- Most importantly, why might have the editors of *Mishkan HaNefesh*, the new Reform machzor, selected this poem, celebrating an intensely intimate moment in its author's life, as a "prayer" for hope?

בּרוּד אַתַּר, יָיָ, הַנּוֹמֻע בְּתוֹכֵנוּ אַהֲבָה וְתִקְנָה.

Baruch atah, Adonai, hanotei·a b'tocheinu ahavah v'tikvah.

Blessed are You, Eternal Presence, who implants within us love and hope for the future.