

CBZ NEWSLETTER: THE KEYS TO JUDAISM

Produced By: **Congregation B'nai Zion**

~ South Florida's Oldest Synagogue ~

Established in 1887

Rabbi Shimon Dudai

President Fred Covan PhD

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The newsletter is produced
bi-monthly (6 issues per year)

Editor: Elyse Spialter

WHAT'S NEW?

It is very unfortunate to be writing this with the Covid-19 pandemic still defining our reality, but it is what it is! As many of you know, these past weeks have been rough for me personally — both

because of the passing of my mother and because of unresolved asthma issues — but, my connection to the CBZ community has been a blessing during this time.

This is the last issue of Volume 11, as we enter the close of the 2019-20 synagogue year. A lot remains uncertain regarding what the situation will be when the 1st issue of the coming Jewish year (the Sept/Oct issue) rolls around, but I ask that you review the important information on the back of the last page as you read this issue to find out more about how we plan to move forward. There's a lot in this issue that I hope you'll find of interest and that will aid in your feeling that CBZ remains an important part of your life.

Many thanks to my on-going proofreaders, SHELDON DAVIDSON & HOWARD SPIALTER, who I am so glad are able to lend their continued assistance by virtual means, and to all who helped with this issue's review.

I close with the hope that you will all remain safe and ask that you do whatever you can to keep others safe as well.



דילוש, Elyse

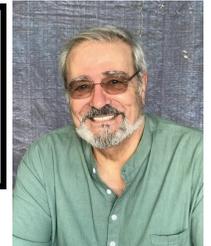
PLEASE EMAIL INFO TO ElyseCBZ@gmail.com

Deadline for the **Sept/Oct** issue is **Aug. 20th!**

PLS NOTE: Publication of the next issue will be delayed until approx. 9/8 to assist in providing current holiday info.

Rabbi Dudai's Message

Please send comments regarding any of the Rabbi's Messages to shdudain@aol.com



The Birth of Christianity

The advent of Christianity came about during a time of extreme fragility in the history of the Jews. Pertinent aspects of this time period were:

- The movement that would become Christianity was one of the poor and powerless versus the dominance of the corrupt priesthood and the oppressive Roman rulers together with their Jewish collaborators. This movement was initially formed and motivated by the belief that a young Jewish preacher from the Galilee was, in fact, the Redeemer-anointed Messiah who would rid the Holy Land of the tyrannical yoke of Rome. This Messiah would establish a "new kingdom" of the Lord based on many cherished Jewish values, including freedom, justice, inclusion, peace and prosperity. In character, this was primarily a Jewish religious messianic movement, just like other similarly based movements that already existed.
- The Jewish society of the Holy Land at this time was (as discussed in previous issues of the newsletter) deeply fragmented. Segments such as the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the Essenes, the Zealots, the Sicarii, and the old aristocratic priesthood were at extreme odds with each other. No one Jewish authority existed that was universally recognized and obeyed.
- Despite the existence of a "Jewish King" in Judea and a "Jewish Tetrarch" in the Galilee, as well as the Sanhedrin (an august institution), governance over all the land was essentially in the hands of Rome. The then Roman governor, a former Legion Commander, was particularly mean and singularly committed to enriching himself. Sources indicate various examples of his mistreatment of those he ruled, such as the cruel executions of many, including the crucifixion for which he is known. Ultimately, the Emperor recalled him to Rome for reprimand.

CONTINUED ON P. 2



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (FROM DR. FRED COVAN):

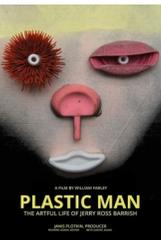
This morning I attended the first Saturday morning service at the synagogue since the lockdown, As you probably know, and I hope you have been following, Rabbi has been conducting his Wednesday evening classes, lunch with the Rabbi and a Friday evening service via Zoom. However, today was the first time we were physically together in such a long time. We were very careful and responsible observing social distancing, monitoring temperature for everyone entering, wearing masks, doing our aliyahs from our seats, we did not pass the Torah and did not have a Kiddush. We did however have the blessings for bread and wine. The service we had was shorter than usual, however, it felt especially spiritual to me. We had a minyan & it just felt so good!

I hope we will be able to continue having Saturday morning services. We are being very careful to have the building regularly cleaned and disinfected and are planning to install ultraviolet lights into our air-conditioning system. Meanwhile, Monroe County appears to have the lowest incidence of illnesses and deaths from the virus compared to the South Florida mainland. We will continue to monitor the situation and plan responsibly for future services. I hope to see you at services on Saturday when we are able to have them and, if not, please participate in our services and activities via zoom.

Shalom, Fred

Editor's Note: Fred's Message was written on June 13. Following the Shabbat services held on 6 /13, the CBZ leadership has been analyzing the in-person concept based on all factors, including the status of the virus and interest level. Up-to-date Information regarding all synagogue activities is provided by email — see bottom of back page. We all look forward to the time to come when we will be able to resume our regular activities at CBZ!

FILM "RERUN" OPPORTUNITY! In January 2018, CBZ's M3M film series screened "Plastic Man: The Artful Life of Jerry Ross Barrish". The film tells the story of Jerry (the cousin of our own Sheldon Davidson), who while running his bail bond business, discovered an unlikely passion for utilizing trash to create art. His talent is shown on screen as he forms collectible



animal & human figures from the debris — especially plastics — that are whimsical, evocative and poignant. If you missed seeing Plastic Man when it was previously shown at CBZ, or if you would like to see it again, there is that opportunity now.

The Jewish Film Institute, through its program called Cinegogue Sessions, is streaming Plastic Man for free until July 1. To get the link, please email Sheldon (shown in the photo top-right with Jerry) at sdavidson13@yahoo.com



Rabbi Dudai's Message

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

- A very large non-Jewish population existed throughout the country. The cities of Caesarea and Sepphoris (Tzippori) in the upper Galilee, for example, had non-Jewish majorities, as well as a large Idumean population that was forcibly converted to Judaism by the Hasmonean King Janus Alexander.

The intolerable living conditions, the civil wars, the endless internal fights, and the oppressive Roman rule were indeed great contributors to the deep desire of many Jews for a Savior to appear. In the Galilee, the appeal of a man who served as preacher, healer, and deliverer of messages of love and hope would have been too powerful for these suffering Jews to ignore. Even when the expectations of those who venerated him were not fulfilled, his charisma and loving ways continued to live in the hearts of his followers.

The impending occurrence of a pivotal event would serve to further divide the people and start an era of great suffering for many future generations.

Have a safe and blessed summer,

Rabbi Dudai

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Fred Covan
Bounce Margil
Suzanne Teicher
Liz Young

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Fred Covan
Eileen Kawaler
Rebetzen Nadia Dudai
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Diana Heller-Yizkor Book

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... If you call & get the office answering machine, please leave a message & someone will get back to you as soon as possible or contact CBZ thru our Website:

www.bnaizionkw.com



HEBREW SCHOOL NEWS!
ELISA LEVY
 reports:
 We rounded up our school year for the CBZ Hebrew School, Zoom style. We had our last Monday call, complete with Shabbat and “Simon Says” in Hebrew. (The Rabbi and Ms. Donna didn’t do



Thanks from Elyse!

Each issue of the newsletter is the product of many different people lending a hand to get the finished product done and out. As newsletter editor, I extend sincere appreciation to each of the following for the tasks they complete issue-after-issue:

“Staff” Proofreaders ...
 SHELDON DAVIDSON
 HOWARD SPIALTER

Birthdays & Anniversaries and Yahrzeit Info; “Mentor” (still!) ...
 KAREN GRANT MARGIL

Contributions Lists; General Info; Constant Contact & Web Liaison ...
 ABBEY WEISS

Messages ...
 RABBI DUDAI
 FRED COVAN

Kiddush Info ...
 REBETZEN NADIA

Gift Shop & Trees of Life Info ...
 MAE MCMAHAN

Troubleshooter ...
 EILEEN KAWALER

Thank you as well to all those who take the time, when available, to help proof &/or contribute to specific issues.

as well as some of our kids in the game!) It was a sad goodbye for the end of the year, but we are hoping to start up again “in person” in the fall. Some resources will be sent out to parents over the summer to continue working on Hebrew vocabulary and reading. The photos here are some of the year’s best. Above to the left the Hebrew School is decorating the first menorah ever at City Hall for Hanukkah and above to the right is a shot from the CBZ Purim Party.



PRAYER FLAGS
 In recognition of those who she knew were ailing during this difficult time, KAREN GRANT-MARGIL created Prayer Flags (inspired by a Tibetan custom)

and displayed them in her yard. Each flag provides a prayer for the healing/safety of an individual. Essentially, these are a written *mishaberach*.
 (Editor’s Note: Thanks for including me Karen!)

Contributions acknowledged in this issue include those posted through June 10. Those made after that date will be recognized in a future issue of the newsletter. Every effort is made to list your contribution in the newsletter as desired based on space allowances TO MAKE CERTAIN that any payment you provide is properly directed and acknowledged, please email to cbzkeywest@gmail.com to provide information regarding what payment you sent in and what it is for (or include a note if mailing a check). Thank you!

PLEASE NOTE: Some of the donations recognized in this issue date back to the past few months, due to administrative adjustments made necessary by the Covid virus!

IMPORTANT: If you know of an unaffiliated Jewish individual living in the Keys, please contact LARRY ABRAMOVITZ, Membership Committee Chair, at 856.889.4360 or Lawrence.Abramovitz@ntnj.com.

MAZEL TOV!

JULY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Lisa & Frank Menditch
- 4 Susan & Merle Dimbath
- 22 Julie & Stuart Schaffer

AUGUST WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Janet & Michael Kass
- Jane & Alan Teitelbaum
- 7 Elyse & Howard Spialter
- 11 Sue & Stuart Kaufman
- 12 Sally & Arnie Young
- 27 Jay Levin & Greg Rowley
- 31 Stephanie & Ari Glazer

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 David Lebwahl
- 3 Roberta Ginsberg
- 5 Danielle Dudai
- Jane Teitelbaum
- 8 Jeffrey Levin
- 10 Donna Feldman
- 11 Sam Kaufman
- 13 Michelle Verastegui
- 16 William Buck
- 17 Sol Rosenblatt
- Sue Kaufman
- Jeff Cohen
- Doug Duda
- 20 Michele Brunschvig
- 23 Sonia Silverman
- 28 Diane Covan
- 30 Becca Maun

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Susan Atz
- 3 Linda Estroff
- Vicky Rosenblatt
- 4 Aaron Wechter
- 5 Ralph Werthheimer
- 6 Carole Sonstein
- August Powers
- 7 Ben Hermelin
- 9 Lisa Menditch
- 10 Ela Hermelin
- Stuart Kaufman
- 12 Fran Kreinces
- 19 Stanley Zabar
- 21 Jack Paul
- 22 Iris Moore Smith
- 24 Harris Estroff
- 25 Stewart Appelrouth
- 28 Ben Covan
- 30 Jay Levin

TREES OF LIFE:

Perform a *mitzvah* ...

Buy a **Leaf** for \$180 – or – **Stone** for \$1500

Designed by renowned artist Sanford Werfel; enhancing the beauty and grace of our Sanctuary ... the branches form the Hebrew words "*Etz Chaim*" and the stones at the roots are symbolic of the *Twelve Tribes of Israel*. Leaves & stones may be inscribed to acknowledge joyous occasions of every kind.

TO PURCHASE: Please fill out a form — all information is on the form. (Forms are available on the website or on file rack at the entrance to the CBZ social hall). Mail the form to Mae McMahan and your check to CBZ.

Recognition of the following leaf inscription:

"To honor with love; An incredible Mom, Grandma & Great Grandma, VERA SCHIFF."

The B'nai Zion GIFT SHOP: Key West's Only Judaica Store

Judaica and Jewish-themed gifts for every occasion or for your own use! Items are available for all the holidays, every life cycle event, or just because — be sure to check what the Gift Shop has! Speak with Mae if you have special order requests. Mae can be contacted at: 305-296-9669 or captmc@bellsouth.net Thanks for your recent purchases to: JERRY GINSBURG & BRUCE YORK.

KW Jewish History Walking Tour

Editor's Note: With the inability to connect to our Judaism in ordinary ways due to the virus, it seemed a very good time to bring back this walking tour that I created at the end of my 2nd year as Editor. Below is a modified version of the tour that was included in the newsletter's Jul-Aug 2011 issue. It was the conclusion of the year-long series on Key West's Jewish history that began in the Sept-Oct 2010 issue. The series included photos of the History Panels found in the back of Bnai Zion's social hall. If you are unable to do the walk or would like corresponding additional info (you'll see that I do refer to the Panels below), go to the archived newsletters found on the CBZ website (www.bnaizionkw.com) under the News & Education link. The "Short Walk" is ~0.4 miles & has about a 10 minute duration without stops; with the "Additional Stops" the total distance is about 1.5 miles with a duration of ~30 minutes. Be sure to consider the summer heat if you will be doing the walk & take proper precautions!

"Short Walk"

Stop #1 — 301 Simonton Street: This building, the U.S. Courthouse, was renamed in 2009 in memory of Judge Sidney M. Aronovitz (see Panel 5). NOTE: On your way to Stop #4 you will pass 530-534 Duval St. Which was the store owned by the Judge's grandfather, David Aronovitz, who arrived in the late 1800s. Also, a street named Aronovitz Lane is located off Whitehead.

Stop #2 — 328 Simonton Street: This building housed the dry goods store owned by Abraham Wolkowsky who was one of the city's first Jewish residents in the late 1800s (see Panel 1). NOTE: His grandson, David, is remembered for extensive development in Key West, including the Pier House. There is a street named for David Wolkowsky near Mallory Square.

Stop #3 — 530 Simonton Street: This building (now a well-known restaurant) was the site of the 1st synagogue in Key West and the original home of Congregation B'nai Zion (see Panel 3)

Stop #4 — 526-528 Duval Street: This is the Lewinsky building. Circa 1908, the family's original use of the building was a saloon (see Panel 2). Thereafter, they changed operations to sell dry goods & furniture (see Panel 4). Halbert Lewinsky, active in his time in city affairs (see Panel 5), operated his men's store here and the building, which sports the Lewinsky name, continues to be a well recognized landmark on Duval Street.

Stop #5 — Appelrouth Lane: This road is on your left just after Stop #4. The Appelrouth and Appel families have contributed to life on the island since the Jewish community's early years (including running businesses on Duval street) and continuing into modern times (see Panels 3 & 5).

"Additional Stops"

Stop #6 — 901 Fleming Street: This building was where Abram Einhorn (father of Jack) first worked when he arrived in the early 1900s (see Panel 2). An interesting tidbit of Key West trivia is that this is the building in which JT Thompson coined the phrase "One Human Family".

Stop #7— Key West Cemetery: B'nai Zion's burial section is a location of significant local Jewish history. You'll likely have to enter at the cemetery's main entrance (corner of Passover & Angela), which is on the opposite side from the Jewish part of the cemetery. If walking that distance (and back to exit) is too much, consider walking around the perimeter to view the area from the street-side of the fence as you approach the corner of Frances & Olivia.



When the time comes that we can again share Kiddush on Shabbat

....please offer your help by contacting Rebetzen Nadia (786-877-0118 or RebetzenND2004@gmail.com)

A few of those who sponsored or contributed to Kiddushes prior to the worsening of coronavirus were overlooked in previous issues and are thanked now for their generosity. Thank you to **Diana Heller, Bonnie & Arnold Goldsmith, Family of Milton Appel and Maxine Makover & Jack Paul.**

Heartfelt Thanks to the Following for Their Contributions to B'nai Zion:

- m/o Rae F. Rubin
(mother of Elyse Spialter)
Judie & Michael Klitenick, Nancy & Mark Funt, and Maxine Makover & Jack Paul
- m/o Milton Appel
Louise Ross, Carol & Phillip Wilks & Charles Roberts
- h/o Susan & Stuart Kaufman
Judy & Irwin Elson
- TY for warm welcome at Shabbat Services
Paul Tuchman
- TY to CBZ & Nadia for charoses
Donna Feldman
- IHO Dr. John Kreinces and Dr. Michael Klitenick
Abbey Weiss
- IHO our 50th Anniversary and Bodner 53rd
Nancy & Mark Funt
- IHO Rabbi Dudai, with thanks for your support following my Mom's passing
Elyse Spialter
- General Fund
Anne Marie & Warren Wolfson
Carol & Larry Abramovitz
Michele Brunschvig

GET MORE CBZ INFO !!!!

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July 2020 Tammuz/Av 5780		August 2020 Av/Elul 5780	
July 1/9 Tammuz	Adela Kantor	August 1/ 11 Av	Irving Silberman
July 2/ 10 Tammuz	George Greenberg		Daniel Rahban
July 3/ 11 Tammuz	Isadore Lippman Levy		Anita Holtsberg
	David Haskell Kay	August 2	Hilda Cooper
	Isadore Rosinek	...../ 12 Av	Fenmore Kawaler
July 4/ 12 Tammuz	Benjamin Prager		Oriana Gordon
	Nat Rabin		Cherin
	Ethelyn F. Lewinsky	August 4/ 14 Av	Adam William
July 5/ 13 Tammuz	Philip Kram		Cohen
	Claudette Haziz		Mary Cohen
July 8/ 16 Tammuz	Sheldon Mermelstein		Esther Kaplan
	Frank Simmons		Millicent Baschkin
	Dora Lewinsky Cohen	August 5/ 15 Av	Karl Wasserman
	Betty Esbin		Sylvia Kanaher
	Ann Freedman	August 6/ 16 Av	Edward Shapiro
July 9/ 17 Tammuz	Meir Sheinberg		Arnold Winshall
	Hannah Shapiro		Molly Young
July 10/ 18 Tammuz	Bernard "Bernie" Kaplan	August 8/ 18 Av	Joseph Rosenbaum
	Bella Kissel		Harry Shapiro
July 11/ 19 Tammuz	Samuel Wolfe Raskin		Ida Ruth Estrin
July 12	Edith Landsman		Delores Berg Starr
	Rudolph Sussman	August 9/ 19 Av	Joseph Abram
...../ 20 Tammuz	Fannie Rodack	August 10/ 20 Av	George J. Kantor
	Nathan Stern		Mildred Swartsberg
July 13/ 21 Tammuz	Kenneth Milton Silberman		Rosaline Kawaler
July 14/ 22 Tammuz	Cecelia (Sis) Zelezny		Vogel
	Israel Herman	August 11/ 21 Av	Anna Richman
	Sarah Estelle Miller Oscherwitz		Anne Bolotin
July 15/ 23 Tammuz	Dorothy Bodner Frankel	August 12/ 22 Av	Margalit Wertheimer
	Philip Saval	August 14/	Jack C. Horberg
	Jacob Lipkin	August 15	Esther Rosenfeld
	David P. Liszt		Sussman
July 18/ 26 Tammuz	Betty Rosenthal	...../ 25 Av	Betty Goldstein
	Molly Kaminsky		Emily Bilton
July 19/ 27 Tammuz	Sol Cohen	August 20/ 30 Av	Jacob Fine
July 20/ 28 Tammuz	Harry Samrick	August 21/ 1 Elul	Connie Golbert
July 21/ 29 Tammuz	Moses Kram		Tillie Rosenthal
	Pauline Rice		Waldsmith
	Samuel Grosky	August 22/ 2 Elul	Morris Rabinowitz
July 22/ 1 Av	Gussie Rudnick	August 23/ 3 Elul	Morris Altman
	Charles Cowen	August 25/	Marsha Kane Davis
July 23	Emanuel Hawtof	...../ 5 Elul	Gerald Margil
...../ 2 Av	Jack Kirchek	August 26/ 6 Elul	Fannie Bush
	Melville Covan	August 27/	Maggie Price
July 25/ 4 Av	Evelyn Moore Cohen	...../ 7 Elul	Hyman Kippelman
	Albert D. Ginsberg		Elaine Funt
	Abraham Hirsch Kawaler		Betsy Hershenson
July 26/	Myrtle Kreitzman		Hymen
..... 5 Av	Rebecca Levin	August 29/	Kathe Niepage
	Fannie Eisenberg	...../ 9 Elul	Harry Raskin
July 27/ 6 Av	Paul E. Baer	August 30/ 10 Elul	Irving Bilton
July 28/ 7 Av	Max Mintz		Amelia Herman
	Joseph Moses		Joe Mulberg
	Molly Teitelbaum		Sam Liszt
July 29/ 8Av	Samuel J. Spies		Leah Moses
July 31/ 10 Av	Ginger Kanzer-Lewis	August 31/ 11 Elul	

Yahrzeits: In most instances, the date observed is the Hebrew date of death (starting at sundown)

Yahrzeit Donations

Lois Fisch
Mark Fisch

Judie & Michael Klitenick
Mildred Klitenick
Eleanor Klitenick
Moshe Hermelin

Jack & Michael Einhorn
Raymond Einhorn

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JoAnn Lebwohl Sands
William Lebwohl
Mildred Lebwohl

Benjamin Hershenson
Bertha Hershenson (mother)

Linda & Alan Solomon
Benjamin Solomon

Carol & Phillip Wilks
Our Fathers

Sandra & Jordan Bernstein
Miriam Bernstein (mother)

Prayer on Kindling a Yahrzeit Candle:

Eternal Rock of Ages — In hushed reverence, I kindle this memorial candle in loving remembrance of my beloved (Mother, Father, Son, Daughter) on this anniversary of his/her/their death(s). We have been taught that human souls are Thy candles. Through them Thou

bringest light into the world. For the light of compassion and tenderness which my loved one(s) brought into my life, I am everlastingly grateful. Help me G-d to use the sacred memory of my loved one(s) as a noble spur to consecrated living. May I perpetuate and transmit everything that was beautiful and lovely in his/her/their character. Keep firm my faith that we cannot go where You are not and where You are all is well. Amen.

As the light is kindled say:
6 *Zecher tsaddik leevrachah.* The memory of the upright is a source of blessing.



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*Many thanks to
Judith and Stan Zabbar for
their donation of
Zabar's wonderful coffee!
Now our Sabbath
Kid'dush luncheons are
even more fabulous
thanks to them!*



Biblical Archeology

Editor's Note: In correlation with Rabbi's ongoing review of Jewish history, this year-long series examines archeological finds linked to specific points in history tied to the narrative of the Jewish Bible. This article acts as the final contribution.

Dead Sea Scrolls

Also referred to as the Qumran Scrolls because they were found in caves of that name (located near the northern shore of the Dead Sea in what is now called the West Bank), these scrolls are generally considered the most significant 20th century Biblical archeological find. The discovery was initially made in 1947 by a Bedouin shepherd who found old clay jars that contained some of the scrolls. In the decade that followed the collection grew as items were recovered from various sites in the region to ultimately include, in addition to a small number of intact scrolls, thousands of scroll fragments found to represent close to 1000 different manuscripts. For convenience, the word "scroll" is used essentially throughout this writing to denote the fragments as well. The scrolls date primarily from the 3rd to the 1st century BCE. Most were written in Hebrew though those in Aramaic & Greek exist also.

Controversy has been associated with the scrolls throughout the years. There has been extensive debate over ownership. The vast majority of the collection has been owned by the state of Israel since 1967. Pre-1967, the largest portion was owned by the Jordanian government and housed in Jordanian-controlled East Jerusalem; after the Six-Day War, the artifacts were in Israeli hands. Jordan, which does retain about 25 items from the collection that were housed in Amman in '67, continues to dispute ownership of the Israeli-controlled scrolls. Many consider the most unusual scroll to be the Copper Scroll displayed at the Jordan Museum — it is a worded "treasure map" of hidden valuables and, though the descriptions are quite cryptic, fortune hunters continue to try to find the elusive precious payload. Another contentious aspect of the scrolls over the past decades has been over academic access. The majority of the scrolls remained unpublished and inaccessible to scholars until the early 1990s. There has been private purchase of some items from the earliest days of their discovery and questionable authenticity has been associated with privately owned scrolls throughout. Very recently, a study has reported that all of the fragments owned by the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C., are all forgeries; the museum, itself no stranger to controversy since its inception, is now displaying the fragments with an "incomplete provenance" caveat. It is important to note that the experts broadly agree that there is no concern as to the authenticity of the Israeli owned artifacts that have undergone scrupulous review over the years.

The manuscripts fall into three major categories: biblical, apocryphal and sectarian. About 100 of the manuscripts are biblical texts, covering segments of the entire Hebrew Bible except the Book of Esther, representing the earliest extensive evidence of the biblical text. This collection is unique in that it is the most important archive yet discovered for understanding late Second Temple Judaism. Debate as to the origin of the scrolls continues. Many believe that the scrolls were written and/or collected by a sect of Jews who did not conform to the Temple/Priest Judaism that dominated Jerusalem at that time. While the writings of the Jewish Bible (associated with mainstream Judaism then as well as now) made up a significant portion of what has been found, the majority of the writings include texts outside the Jewish canon and many described beliefs & customs that we do not associate with standard Judaism at that time or thereafter. While not accepted by all, there is a lot that points to a Messianic-leaning to the group that occupied Qumran, or at least an apocalyptic viewpoint akin to groups such as the Essenes. Some, however, feel that the diversity of the writings point to the caves being a hiding place for a wide range of Jewish writings as the threat of devastation by the Romans neared.



Except for the one metal scroll, the text is written primarily on parchment and, to a lesser extent, on papyrus. The scrolls were able to be preserved over 2000 years due to the arid conditions of the area and the protection afforded by the caves. Deterioration due to mishandling continued to be a big problem well into the 1960s. In 1965, Israel constructed the Shrine of the Book in Jerusalem, a distinctive structure that was built to house the original 7 scrolls found and then already in Israel's possession. Visitors to the museum are only able to see a portion of Israel's full collection as the fragility of the scrolls makes it impossible to display them on a continuous basis. A system of rotation is used which provides for removal of scrolls so that they can "rest" from exposure after they've been exhibited for 3-6 months. The Shrine of the Book houses the Isaiah Scroll, which is the most intact of any found; due to its importance, a facsimile of the original is displayed in the museum. This scroll contains, with just minor variations and some slight damage, the entire Book of Isaiah consisting of the 66 chapters in the same sequence as we know today. It is believed to be the work of a single scribe. Go to dss.collections.imj.org.il to see digitalized images of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

In Touch with You
Kenneth J. Weschler, Owner



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JUL/AUG 2020

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~ South Florida's Oldest Synagogue ~

Established in 1887

Rabbi Shimon Dudai

President Fred Covan PhD

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☺ **AMAZON SMILE** ☺

We are happy to announce that Congregation B'nai Zion is now a participant in the Amazon Smile program. What is Amazon Smile?

Amazon Smile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices and convenient shopping features as found on Amazon.com.

The difference is that when customers shop at Amazon Smile ([smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/amazon-smile)), the Amazon Smile Foundation donates 0.50%

of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization selected by the customer. There is **no cost** to the organization or the customer. If you have any questions contact

888-282-0536 or charity-support@amazon.com. We are registered as Congregation B'nai Zion IN Key West. If you are one of our many CBZers who shops on Amazon, please help us out by going to Amazon Smile. Thanks for your anticipated participation!

IN LIEU OF 'CALENDAR OF EVENTS'

It is just not possible to provide the regular "Calendar of Events" that usually appears in this spot. Unfortunately, there remains tremendous uncertainty about what will be held and in what fashion. You are urged to follow the eBlasts sent frequently from the synagogue — these contain the latest news. At this time, there are various on-going virtual opportunities that continue and provide the chance to stay connected & participate in synagogue life; these include study sessions with the Rabbi and weekly Erev Shabbat (Friday night) Services. To be properly informed about all on-line happenings, you need to be receiving the emails that CBZ sends out.

Also, the status of in-person gatherings is under consideration and, of course, all pertinent information will be included in the emails. If you are NOT getting emails from B'nai Zion, send an email to Abbey at cbzkeywest@gmail.com to ask her to add you to the list! MANY THANKS to all those whose efforts have gone into the internet-based programming that's been made available.

PLEASE NOTE: The High Holidays begin with Erev Rosh Hashanah at sunset on September 18. Completion and distribution of the Sept/Oct issue of the newsletter will be delayed (until a week or so into September) to provide as up-to-date information at that time as possible regarding what the plans for the holidays will be.