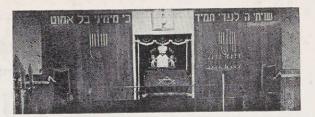
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TAMUZ-AV-ELUL 5732

JULY-AUGUST 1972

Vol. XX-No. 112

DESTRUCTION — MAD OR SANE?

by RABBI SHLOMO KAHN

Laszlo Toth attacked Michelangelo's *Pieta* in the Vatican with a hammer, last May, and severely damaged it. It remains to be seen how Christianity's "forgive them for they know not what they do" will charitably be extended to the demented fellow.

Besides smashing the famous sculpture, the poor lunatic achieved some other interesting eye-opening results. The work of art was suddenly unmasked as a primitive idol, and the Pope as head of a latter-day practicing idolatrous sect. How else can we explain his hurried pilgrimage to the stricken marble lady, kneeling before her in prayer and, of all things, sending her a bouquet of roses to soothe her bruises. (Rather reminiscent of young Abraham's disgust at seeing offerings placed at the feet of his father's wooden images.)

More. The affront to the "gentle, humane, loving" religion evoked world-wide sympathy. Horror at the cruel disfigurement of the marble statue swept through con-

tinents, making headlines and causing tears to be shed. Experts met in conferences to assess the damage and report on restoration. "Every tiniest fragment" was carefully, lovingly gathered amidst universal outrage and mourning for the irreplaceable treasure of stone. And "the *Pieta* is priceless—whatever it costs to repair it is irrelevant."

One wonders, where were these warm hearts and salty tears and unlimited funds from Church coffers when millions were starved, beaten, humiliated, tortured, gassed or burned? What of other millions, victims of famines, floods, wars? Are a Pope's prayers and flowers reserved for the damaged eye-lid, nose, arm and veil of a marble image only?

We have, of course, understanding and appreciation for invaluable treasures which with their enduring presence create tradition, spanning centuries and gladdening the hearts of generations of viewers. But,

(Continued on page 15)

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Mazeltov for the engagements of: Miss Marcia Don & Mr. Jerry Oppenheim Miss Kimberly Deutsch & Mr. Henry Hirsch

Mazeltov for the wedding of Miss Malke Grunberger & Mr. Norbert Wartelsky.

The Congregation mourns the passing of:

Paula Goldschmidt.

Ludwig Bauman (brother of Mrs. Recha Frank).

Auguste Rothschild.

Max Hamburger.

Julius Strauss (brother of Mr. Siegbert Strauss).

Henry Falkenstein.

Berta Koestrich (sister of Mrs. Erna Stern).

Carol Adler (sister of Mr. Adolph Heimer).

Henriette Buxbaum.

Julius Strauss (brother of Mr. Max Strauss).

ZICHRONOM LIVROCHO

CHILDREN'S PAGE



"Why don't I get a pretty one?"

Kupsie was at it again, grumbling and complaining, never satisfied.

"You're never satisfied," said Tassie to him, "you always complain."

Tumbler smiled. "Aren't you guilty also, Tassie?" he asked gently. "You're complaining about Kupsie."

But Kupsie had become impatient. When he doesn't get instant attention and a quick answer, he gets so annoyed that he's ready to jump off the shelf in excitement. "Why don't I get a pretty one?" he said, louder and angrier than before.

"Relax. We heard you the first time," teased Tassie. "Anyway, what is it that you want to get?"

"Clothing! Pretty clothing! Like the humans. They dress so colorfully and nicely, in shirts and pants, dresses, blouses and skirts. Must be exciting. Not always the same old looks. Look at me," he went on, "always exactly the same."

"But, Kupsie, don't you like the way you look? Aren't you proud of your fine silver, polished to a gleaming and sparkling shine?"

"Sure, sure, but there's no variety! Isn't clothing here for a purpose?"

Tassie couldn't answer that, but Tumbler did.

"You're wrong, Kupsie, all wrong. Clothing does have a purpose but not the way you put it."

"You mean it's for protection, from cold and wind and rain?" asked Tassie.

"No," said Tumbler, "that's important too, but not the real purpose. Let me tell

you how it all started," and Tumbler told them about Adam and Eve, how they lived happily in the Garden of Eden after G'd had created them, as free from worries and duties as all animals.

"You mean they had no clothing on?" asked the two little cups.

"That's right. Not until they committed a sin and felt ashamed, did they have the need to cover their bodies. But ever since then, humans must cover themselves, to show that they're decent and have the proper respect for G'd. Animals and objects, like Kiddush cups, need no clothing. But humans must be properly dressed at all time, even in summer, when it's hot."

"Boy, am I glad I'm a Kiddush cup!" sighed Kupsie in relief.

(Will be continued)

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Pinchos, July 1	7:15	8:30	8:40	9:15	4:10	8:55
Matos-Masey, July 8	7:15	8:30 Predigt	8:40	1 1		9:00
Dvorim, July 15	7:15	8:30			4:20	9:05
Voes'chanan, July 22	. 7:15	8:30	8:30		4:30	9:05
Ekev, July 29	. 7:15	8:30 Sermon	8:20		4:45	9:10
R'e, August 5	. 7:15	8:30			4:55	9:15
Shoftim, August 12	. 7:15	8:30	Maria Nacional		5:05	9:15
Ki Setze, August 19	7:15	8:30			5:20	9:20
Ki Sovo, August 26	7:15	8:30				9:25
Nitzovim-Vayelech, September 2	7:10	8:30		8:05		9:25

Shivo osor bTamuz, Thursday, June 29

Fast begins	4:00 A.M.
Shacharis	7:25 A.M.
Mincho-Maariv	8:00 P.M.
Fast ends	9:10 P.M.

Rosh Chodesh Av, Wednesday, July 12

 Shacharis
 7:25 A.M.

 Mincho-Maariv
 8:00 P.M.

 Fast ends
 9:05 P.M.

Chamisho osor bAv, Wednesday, July 26

Rosh Chodesh Elul, Thursday & Friday, August 10 & 11

1st day Slichos, Sunday, September 3

Sunday		8:00 A.M.
Monday	- Friday	7:25 A.M.
Evenings	3	8:00 P.M.

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SOLL ICH WEINEN?

Der Prophet Secharjo berichtet von einer seltsamen Schaalo (religioese Frage). In jener Zeit war ein ansehnlicher Teil der Juden Babylons wieder nach Eretz Israel zurueckgekehrt. Wieder war ein juedischer Staat auf heiligem Boden entstanden. Der zweite Tempel war errichtet und der Opferdienst ermoeglicht. Schon war man zum Abschaffen des Fasten an Zom Gedaljo geschritten, denn das Trauern ueber Vertreibung aus Eretz Israel (nach Ermordung Gedaljos) war durch erneutes Ansiedeln aufgehoben. Wie steht es aber mit den anderen Fasttagen, die den Verlust von Staat, Jerusalem und Tempel betrauern (Asoro bTewes, Schiwo osor bTamus, Tischo bAw)?

Die Juden Babylons wandten sich an die Kohanim und Propheten in Jerusalem mit der halachischen Frage (Secharjo 7:3):

האבכה בחדש החמשי הנזר כאשר עשיתי זה כמה שנים.

"soll ich weinen im fuenften Monat (Aw) in Enthaltsamkeit, so wie ich es getan habe diese manchen Jahre?" (Sie fragten wegen Tischo bAw, denn wenn dieser nicht mehr zu halten ist, fallen die anderen Fasttage selbstverstaendlich weg.)

Aus der Antwort, eine laengere Botschaft G'ttes an den Propheten, ist die Unschluessigkeit und die Zweifel der Fragenden klar zu erkennen. Zwar war juedisches Volksleben wieder in Eretz Israel erstanden und der Tempel wieder erbaut, aber es waren doch noch nicht Moschiachs Zeiten. Es fehlten (nach Erklaerung Malbim) sieben Erloesungszeichen:

- (1) G'ttes sichtbare Naehe (Schechino) im Tempel.
- (2) Unabhaengigkeit des Staates (noch dem persischen Reiche untertaenig, der Gefahr weiterer Vertreibung ausgesetzt).
- (3) Einwanderung saemtlicher Juden der Welt (noch kein Kibbutz Golios).
- (4) Fruchtbarkeit des Landes (wenn Eretz Israel blueht, ist Moschiach nahe).

- (5) Anerkennung der Voelker (noch war es ein unbedeutendes Land).
- (6) Besitz des ganzen Landes (viele Gebiete noch von Nichtjuden bewohnt).
 - (7) Davidische Herrschaft.

Nun verlangte G'tt, mehr als gewohnheitsmaessiges Fasten, Erfuellung sozialer Pflichten zwischen Mensch und Mensch und Hueten von G'ttesgesetz. Darauf, so versprach G'tt, wird bald Seine Schechino wieder in Israels Mitte weilen und der juedische Staat mit sicherem Scholom gesegnet werden. Dann werden alle Vertriebenen wieder heimkehren und das Land unter Bewunderung der Voelker sich zur Bluete entfalten. Dann wird das Land voellig juedisch sein und, mit Moschiachs Kommen,

צום הרביעי וצום החמישי וצום השביעי וצום העשירי יהיה לבית יהודה לששון ולשמחה ולמעדים טובים.

"das Fasten des vierten Monats (Tamus) und das Fasten des fuenften (Aw) und das Fasten des siebten (Tischri = Zom Gedaljo) und das Fasten des zehnten (Tewes) wird dem Hause Jehudo zur Wonne und Freude und zu frohen Festen." (*ibid.* 8:19)

"Soll ich weinen?" war Israels Frage an G'tt. Seine Antwort: Solange die Ursachen die zur Zerstoerung fuehrten, noch nicht geschwunden sind, und solange das heiss ersehnte Glueck noch nicht gekommen ist, ist Weinen und Fasten am Platz.

Unserer Zeit ist es vergoennt, das allmaehliche Erfuellen dieses Programms erblicken zu duerfen. Wir koennen die Fortschritte wahrnehmen, die zu Loesung und Erloesung fuehren. Allerdings ist immer noch das Talmudwort angaenglich:

כל דור שאינו נבנה בימיו מעלין עליו כאילו הוא החריבו.

"Jedem Geschlecht, in dessen Tagen der Tempel nicht erbaut wird, wird es angerechnet als ob es ihn zerstoert haette." (Jerusalem Talmud Joma 1:1)

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"POINT OF VIEW" A Column for the Young Adult

HAPPY DAYS

"There were no happier days for Israel than . . ." — so begins a Mishna (end of Tractate Tanis).

What a promising beginning, full of joy and rejoicing. Israel has many happy days, of festivity and delight. (Doesn't Judaism excel in joy with its bridal benediction a gushing, bubbling well of synonyms:

ששון ושמחה גילה רנה דיצה וחדוה

"joy and gladness, cheer and exultation, delight and pleasure"?) And now, "There were no happier days for Israel than . ." We're all ears. What ARE those exceptionally happy days, towering above all others, bringing showers of joy and gladness?

bringing showers of joy and gladness?
"... the fifteenth of Av and — Yom
Kippur!" Stunned silence. A bursting
bubble. Pins puncturing a balloon. We sort
of expected Simchas Torah or Purim or at
least a major holiday — Pesach, Shovuos,
Sukkos. Fifteenth of Av? Happiest day?

We grudgingly make room for Yom Kippur. Its happiness exists, of course, on a spiritual level. Not in food and drink, song and dance. Come to think of it, a profound, soul uplifting day, Day of Atonement and Reconciliation (G'd's gift of forgiveness and second Tablets of Law its historical precedent). But what, on earth, does the fifteenth of Av commemorate?

Wait. The Mishna doesn't speak of historical background nor of religious significance. Rather, of the way in which Israel of old observed and celebrated these days:

"... for on them the maidens of Jerusalem, dressed in white, went forth to dance in the surrounding vineyards to attract the eyes of the young men..."

Now we "dig" the happiness. These two calendar dates were set aside for "dates," discreet encounters, social gatherings with the undisguised object: matrimony.

On Yom Kippur? Yes, indeed! A highly appropriate day for choosing carefully and wisely. To paraphrase Scott:

"Breathes there a Jew with soul so dead,

Who never to himself hath said, This is my own, my holy day? Whose heart hath ne'er within him burn'd

As home his footsteps he hath turn'd From year-long wandering astray?"

On Yom Kippur we can be relied upon to ignore all bewitching guile and frivolous temptation.

Fine. Yom Kippur. But what of the fifteenth of Av?

Rarely, if ever, has our people so impulsively draped joy and festivity around a calendar page, without biblical or rabbinic decree, as here. The Talmud records no less than six causes, snatched up by our people, to give it distinction:

(1) Last of the desert generation had died — all were now ready to enter the Land of Israel.

(2) Lifting of the ban on intermarriage between the Tribes of Israel (which had existed during the first generation).

(3) Peace with Tribe of Benjamin after civil war and solution of estrangement problems.

(4) Opening of roads to Jerusalem for Temple pilgrims (which Jerobeam had sealed for the people of the Northern Kingdom).

(5) Burial of slain defenders of Betar, after many years of negotiations with Roman conquerors.

(6) End of wood-cutting season for Temple supply (wane of summer heat, needed for drying the wood).

No common denominator, no current of adhesive similarity run through these six points. They're all legitimate, of course, pointing up to such national and religious highlights as Eretz Israel, unity of the nation, hero appreciation, Temple worship.

Call them reasons or pretexts. They sanction and authorize a post-mourning (after "Three Weeks" and Tisho bAv) midsummer festival of joy.

MEMORIAL TABLETS



The Yahrzeit of the following will be observed on our Memorial Tablets:

Amalie Eberhardt	3.	Tai	mu:
Maurice Gudoff	3.	Tar	
Doris Baer	4.	Tai	nus
Amalie Rosenberg	5.	Tai	nus
Moses Hess	9.	Tar	nus
Rebecca Schoemann	10.	Tar	nus
Efroim Birman	10.	Tar	nus
Leopold Sonneberg Abraham Rosenthal	14.	Tar	nus
Abraham Rosenthal	16.	Tar	nus
Herman Schartenberg			
Gustav Gruenberg			
William Kugelman	22.	Tan	aus
Erich Lauter	23.	Tan	nus
Eva Lachman		Tan	nus
Anna Singer			
Fanny Rosenthal	25.	Tan	nus
Albert Gutkind	28.	Tan	ıus
Bernard Gootter		2	Av
Anna Dicker		3	Av
Klara Rotschild		3	
Martha Levi			
Jocheved Auer		6. 1	Av
Else Starkhaus		9. 1	Av
Alfred Sherlin	1	4. 1	Av
Salli Stern	1	4. 1	4v
Mirjam Nussbaum	1	5. <i>I</i>	٩v
Julius Hamburger	1	6. <i>I</i>	lv
Adolf Gottlieb	1	6. A	lv
Leopold Eichtersheimer	1	7. <i>E</i>	lv
Joseph Hamburger	1	9. A	v
Salomon Tannenbaum	2	1. A	v
Bertha May	2	1. A	V
Rosel Hersch	23	3. A	V
Jettchen Goldschmidt	24	4. A	V
Max Schwarz	24	í. A	v
Hannah Goldsmith	25	5. A	V
Adolf Blumenthal	25	5. A	v
Moritz Gottschalk	25	5. A	V
Siegfried Frank	20	5. A	V
Camilla Michels	27	'. A	V
Jeanette Tannenbaum	28	3. A	V

Julie Katz	20 1
Lina Rosenthal	29. AV
Lina Rosenthal	
Eugene Stern	
Daniel Gottlieb	
Clara Strauss	3. Elul
Arthur Sonneberg	
Josef Wolf	7. Elul
Julius Hirsch	9. Elul
Sussman Moses	10. Elul
Joseph Katz	15. Elul
Leopold Tannenbaum	16. Elul
Erna Liebenstein	17. Elul
Arno Trautmann	22. Elul
Olga Jonas	23. Elul
Bertha Hofmann	24. Elul
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"If you come to My house
I shall come to your house;
If you don't come to My house
I won't come to yours."

(Talmud Sukko 53a)

The Congregation Reports . . .

...........

... that the Congregation seeks a man or couple (retired or semi-retired) as porter, to clean synagogue and social rooms, several hours on 2-3 days a week . . .

... that all who have not as yet sent in their Yizkor donations (Pesach and Shovuos) are asked to do so ...

... that the Sisterhood arranged a lecture on Soviet Jewry, on April 23rd, delivered by City College Lecturer Mrs. T. Schneider.

. . . that our Congregation participated in large numbers in the Soviet Jewry Weekend (April 28-30), at an Oneg Shabbos on Friday evening, a Candle-Light March and Rally on Shabbos night, and the Solidarity March on Sunday . . .

was initiated on Yom Yrusholaim, that many members purchased bonds to help the State of Israel, that everyone is once again urged to do his share . . .

... that, as every summer, the Congregation's office will not be open for business during July; kindly see us weekday evenings after Maariv services (8 P.M.) ...

. . . that ticket sale for High Holidays begins Sunday, August 6th, that since in past years all synagogue seats were sold out, any change of seating arrangement or purchase of additional seats must be brought to our attention as early as possible . . .

... that a generous donation, toward the restoration of our Sefer Torah, was made by Mr. Fred S. Strauss . . .

. . . that Mrs. Ida Kaufherr donated a new Omud cover . . .

... that 10 new Siddurim with English translation (Birnbaum Siddurim) were donated by Mrs. Ada Ullmann ...

. . . that donations for the "Rabbi's Newsletter" were made by Mr. & Mrs. Manfred Loeb, Dr. & Mrs. Herman Blumenthal, and Mr. & Mrs. Adolf Ullmann . . .

My sincere appreciation to all members and friends for the kindness expressed at the passing of my sister.

Adolph Heimer

Allen Freunden & Bekannten herzlichen
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SOVIET JEWRY

All efforts of our community, organized in the Washington Heights-Inwood Council for Soviet Jewry, are geared to constant relief for our brothers and sisters behind the Iron Curtain.

There is a steady flow of packages to Jews in Russia, for the dual purpose of *Hatzolas Nfoshos* (literally saving from starvation those who have been discharged from their jobs) and *Pidyan Shvuim* (enabling many to raise money needed for exit permits).

There is the need to keep a watchful eye on developments in Russia, to send telegrams to Soviet authorities when arrests take place, threatening Jews with sentences in prison or labor camp or confinement in insane asylum. Experience has taught that the Russian government is very sensitive to world opinion and a deluge of public messages can often avert catastrophe.

President Nixon's trip to Moscow, on which Russian Jews pinned indescribable hopes, presented us with a welcome opportunity to show our solidarity with them. The Jewish masses of New York rose to the occasion admirably. In unprecedented numbers did the thousands (well over 150,000!) march on Fifth Avenue on April 30th.

Our own area participated fully. Designating a "Soviet Jewry Weekend," Washington Heights and Inwood sponsored a Friday Oneg Shabbot (at Mt. Sinai Jewish Center), rabbis' sermons devoted to Solidarity on Shabbos morning, and a giant Candle-Light Procession on Shabbos night,

with over a thousand marchers (from Congregation Ohav Sholaum, at 196th Street, through Broadway, to Congregation Shaare Hatikvah, 179th Street), culminating in a public rally there.

Membership in the rapidly growing Council (approaching 500 members) is a MUST for all. A detailed progress report of the year's activities will be distributed to the members this month. A full membership meeting is scheduled for the early fall.

Please enroll, if you aren't a member yet.

Wash. Hts.-Inwood Council for Soviet Jewry 562 West 181st Street New York, N.Y. 10033

Gentlemen:

Pease enroll me as a member in the Council. I enclose my membership dues for this year (\$5.—/ student \$2.—).

Name:

WHERE ARE THE SYNAGOGUES?

An ancient legend is told:

"When the Beth HaMikdosh, the holy Temple in Jerusalem, was destroyed, the Holy One, blessed be He, took its stones and scattered them in all directions throughout the world. And wherever a stone landed, a synagogue would eventually be built.

"Therefore the synagogue is called *Mikdosh M'at* — a little sanctuary, for it is a small part of the great Sanctuary, due to the stone of the Temple which fell on its site."

DIE SCHIUR-ECKE



Wussten Sie . . .

. . . dass es eine wichtige und grosse Mitzwo ist, einem der es braucht, Geld zu leihen?

. . . dass es verboten ist, muendlich eine Anleihe zu machen, sondern man es entweder schriftlich niedergelegt oder vor Zeugen tun muss?

. . . dass Geldleihen zwischen Juden zinslos sein muss, es sei denn dass, in Ausnahmsfaellen, ein vorschriftsmaessiger Vertrag ausgestellt wird (Schtar Isko)? (Israel Bonds sind vom Hauptrabbinat so ausgearbeitet, dass sie religionsgesetzlich einwandfrei sind.)

... dass Tfilin an der richtigen Stelle des Kopfes gelegt werden muessen, Nicht in der Stirne, sondern voellig auf Haupthaar (oder Platz von Haupthaar) mit der aeusseren Kante genau auf den ersten Haarwurzeln, und Nicht woertlich zwischen den Augen, sondern genau Ueber dem Mittelpunkt zwischen den Augen?

. . . dass man sich an 4 Stellen in der Schmone Esre verbeugen muss, und zwar:

(1) Zu Beginn der ersten Brocho (Boruch Ato), und

(2) zum Schluss der ersten Brocho (Boruch Ato)

(3) bei Modim Anachnu Loch

(4) zum Schluss der Modim Brocho (Boruch Ato)

sonst aber bei keiner anderen Brocho; dass man sich folgendermassen verbeugt:

bei Boruch — die Kniee bei Ato — Kopf und Oberkoerper Vor Haschem — wieder aufrecht?

DRUZE TEACH JEWS!

Dliyat-el-Carmel, in Israel, is a large Druze village (Arabs fiercely loyal to the State of Israel). Recently nervous tension gripped it and caused an uproar.

Former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion was coming and the villagers were eagerly preparing for the great visitor. But then they heard that the Druze elders had arranged for the veteran statesman to address Druze women too and to shake their hands.

Outraged, they stormed up to their community leaders and demanded to know who had been guilty in allowing this religious violation.

"Since when is it permitted for a man to touch a strange woman?" they asked.



WHISP

A few congregations in our area have organized the Washington Heights Inwood Safety Patrol (WHISP), an efficiently run volunteer organization which, with the blessings of the police precinct, contributes considerably to safety in our streets.

WHISP patrols the area with its own patrol cars, Sunday through Thursday, 7:30-10:30 P.M. The cars are in radio contact with a base station and the station, which monitors also all police calls, is in communication with the police precinct.

WHISP has successfully prevented muggings, car thefts, drug traffic and disturbances, and contributes to the stabilization of the neighborhood. WHISP also gives coverage for events and meetings of participating organizations.

WHISP is looking for additional members to serve as volunteer drivers and observers. (Members usually serve once every two or three weeks on a convenient evening.) Anyone interested please call WHISP at 568-6200, Sunday through Thursday, 8-10 P.M.

Hearty Mazeltov wishes on the occasion of the 25th wedding anniversary of MR. & MRS. HELMUTH HIRSCHHEIMER

Mr. & Mrs. Adolph Heimer

Die Gemeinde sucht Mann oder Ehepaar zwecks Reinigung von Synagoge und Raeume fuer Arbeit einiger Stunden 2-3 mal in der Woche (Continued from page 1) no matter how priceless, nothing of wood, canvas, metal or stone can possibly surpass

the value and the sanctity of human life!

An almost obscure reference, in the Book of Psalms, skillfully chosen by the divinely inspired author, gives the cue for a bold, fantastic statement by the Rabbis of the Midrash. In searing words does the Psalmist mourn the destruction of Jerusalem:

מזמור לאסף אלקים באו גוים בנחלתך טמאו את היכל קדשך שמו את ירושלים לעיים.

"A Song of Assaph:
O G'd! Nations have entered into
Your heritage,
They have profaned Your holy
Temple,
They have rendered Jerusalem
heaps of ruins." (PSALMS 79)

"A song? A Psalm?" wonders the Midrash. "Ought it not rather be entitled a dirge, a mournful lament, a wailing outcry of woe?"

"No!" insist the Rabbis, "it IS a song of praise. G'd's wrath was kindled against His people and threatened to engulf them. But in His mercy He directed His anger against wood and stone instead, sparing human life." (Shochar Tov 79; Yalkut and Rashi T'hilim 79)

The Temple, throbbing heart-center of our religious life, was razed to the ground. Jerusalem, our national capital, ruined. Priceless. Immeasurably valuable. Irreplaceable. And yet, the Psalmist gives vent to true Jewish feeling. In the midst of devastation, he rejoices, for the anger of G'd was appeased by wood and stone. Though there was loss of life too, further bloodshed was averted through destruction of sacred yet dead material.

There's a world of difference between Israel and the nations. No wonder that Midrash Eycho remarks:

אם יאמרו לך יש חכמה בגוים תאמין יש תורה בגוים אל תאמין.

"If they tell you: "There's knowledge among the nations," you may believe it; 'there's Torah wisdom among them," don't believe it." (RABBO 2:17)

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