



Carnegie Shul Chatter

November 16, 2017

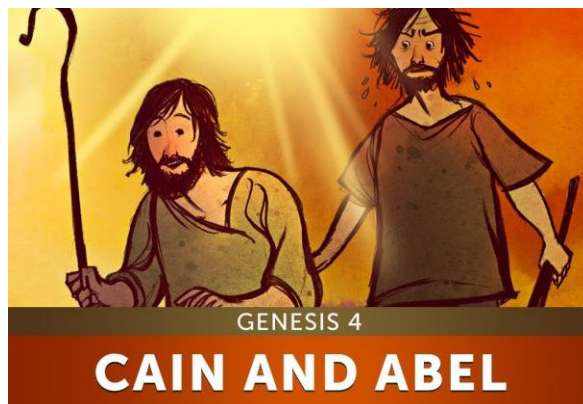


Oh, Brother!

If there is one thing you can be pretty darned sure of it is that the City of Philadelphia could not possibly have existed in biblical times. The City of Brotherly Love? Highly unlikely.

The first two brothers in the Torah were Cain and Abel, and Cain killed Abel, then asked God, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Hardly seems like brotherly love to me.

Then there were half-brothers Ishmael and Isaac. Sarah thought that Ishmael was a bad influence on Isaac, so Ishmael was evicted from Abraham's home.



Brother's Keepers?

Yes, as this week's main article points out, some of our ancestors did not get along too well with their brothers, but history also includes some very famous and successful brothers.

Here are some brothers, including the Jewish Warner, Marx, and Gershwins, who achieved fame together, although I must admit I do not know just how friendly their relationships were:

The Wright Brothers - Orville and Wilbur

The Kennedy Brothers – John, Robert, and Teddy

The Manning Brothers – Peyton and Eli

The Brothers Grimm – Jacob and Wilhelm

The Gershwin Brothers – George and Ira

The Marx Brothers – Groucho, Harpo, Gummo, Zeppo, and Chico

The Gibb Brothers (The Bee Gees) – Robin, Barry, and Maurice

The Everly Brothers – Phil and Don

The Warner Brothers – Harry, Albert, Samuel, and Jack

In this week's parshah it's Isaac's sons Esau and Jacob. Jacob steals Esau's birthright, and Esau vows to kill Jacob. Not a lot of brotherly love there either.

Then there are Jacob's sons who toss their brother Joseph into a pit out of jealousy for Joseph's coat of many colors. Does anyone see a pattern here?

To be fair, Ishmael and Isaac did get together to bury their father Abraham. Esau and Jacob later made peace. And Joseph eventually forgave his brothers. But brotherly love is certainly put to an early test.



And, to be fair, Moses and his brother Aaron did work pretty well together when called upon to confront Pharaoh.

The Torah shows its heroes for what they are, human beings who have human flaws. It does not give us a false portrayal of people as being perfect. Our ancestors had imperfections just as we do. And so, if you and your siblings had your occasional spats, or maybe even your spats were much more frequent than you would have liked (or your mother would have liked) remember, you are only human. And just as biblical brothers eventually reconciled (except, of course, Cain and Abel), so do we also have the opportunity to reconcile with our brothers and sisters. It doesn't always happen, but it's great when it does, and it will surely make Mom happy, too.



This Shabbas, our Kiddush will be sponsored by the May, Southworth, Sherman, Nabonsal and Brunwasser families In memory of their dad and grandfather, Albert H Brunwasser.

We thank these families for their sponsorship and ask that as many congregants as possible attend our services to help celebrate the memory of Albert H. Brunwasser.

Yahrzeit Plaques

Commemorate a loved one by dedicating a yahrzeit plaque in his or her memory at the Carnegie Shul. These beautiful plaques, mounted on the sanctuary walls, are lit on the loved one's yahrzeit, Yom Kippur, and days when Yizkor is recited. The names are also read aloud from the Bimah during services on the Sabbath of the yahrzeit and on Yom Kippur. To purchase a plaque, for only \$175, please email Mike Roteman at mrmike7777@yahoo.com.





Please consider sponsoring a Kiddush in honor or in memory of a loved one, for only \$36. Your sponsorship will be announced from the bimah and in the weekly Chatter. To sponsor a Kiddush, email mrmike7777@yahoo.com.

Coming Event

It's not until May, but this should draw a full house at Temple Emanuel.

Rabbi Telushkin, hailed by Jewish Week as "America's rabbi," will be speaking at Temple through a grant by the Sajowitz Endowment Fund and South Hills Jewish Pittsburgh.

100 seats are available for a meet and greet with reserved seating, for \$36.
General admission (700 seats) is available for \$5.

RSVP to www.templemanuelpgh.org/event/Telushkin/

AN
EVENING
WITH RABBI
JOSEPH
TELUSHKIN

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2018 / 7:30 PM
Upper St. Clair High School Theater