

"The Stone that Jacob Rolled"

אברהם אבינו ז"ל היה אדם רחוק מן המעשה
 (כמו) א"ל (ע"י) אברהם אבינו ז"ל היה אדם רחוק מן המעשה
 ... אברהם אבינו ז"ל היה אדם רחוק מן המעשה

- I. Why was Bible, usually so economical with even words & letters, so elaborate in its description of details of Jacob's rolling away a stone which ~~the~~ took three lucky shepherds?
- II. Rabbin had 5. Holiday (i.e. Jew. equivalent of Roman Hol.) with these verses. gave several interpretations
- III. Primarily, idea is: אברהם represents deep, clear, sparkling, living waters of our own personality, striving to overflow & give its blessing to others etc. It's blocked by an אברהם, obstacle, to each his own kind.
- IV. Three types אברהם:
- a) אברהם אבינו - economical. Jacob prays for its alleviation later. Sometimes your preoccupation w. rolling away the stone אברהם אבינו is itself the great stone - you take your business home, all life etc.
 - b) אברהם אבינו - psychological. i.e. psychol. block, fears, passions etc.
 - c) אברהם אבינו - intellectual - religious problems, cultural moves sometimes are rock in mouth of his heart.
- V. Solutions:
- a) אברהם אבינו - i.e. a great love
 1. marital love - inspiration, otherwise dull life. Marriage but not love, living w. each other but not together. One spot which every religious teacher is aware of.
 2. love for ideals & passion for principles. ex: Beethoven's love for music though rock-blind; Milton love for poetry - rock-blind; Moses - though shattered.
 - b) dream - Jacob starts out w. dream
 - c) prayer - (after dream) must start out ^{life} with a prayer.
 - d) knowledge that אברהם אבינו
- VI. אברהם אבינו / אברהם אבינו - each has sleep on rock, has obstruction in mind, but must build אברהם אבינו out, dedicate it to g-d under that אברהם אבינו.