

לשנה טובה תכתבו ותחתמו



Cover painting

Abraham and Isaac (2005)

by

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Oil on canvas

85 x 65cm (34" x 26")

The painting captures the moment after the angel of G-d stopped Abraham at the last minute from sacrificing his son. With Abraham passing his test, the angel declared, "Now I know you fear G-d." Abraham then offered a ram instead of his son.

Each year, this moving story is read in our synagogues on Rosh Hashana. It calls out to each of us to reflect deeply on the sounds of the shofar – the ram's horn blown on these holy days. May we all respond to those stirring sounds and dedicate ourselves anew to living inspired and fulfilling Jewish lives.

לשנה טובה תכתבו ותחתמו

May you be inscribed in the Book of Life
for a good year.

Wishing a Healthy, Happy, Prosperous
and Peaceful New Year to
all our friends and supporters.

This Rosh HaShanah,
as we reflect, renew and
recommit ourselves to our heritage,
please join Jews for Judaism
in our struggle to
Keep Jews Jewish and
Save Jewish Lives.

Thank you.

Jews for
Judaism

jewsforjudaism.ca

KEEPING JEWS JEWISH

Keeping Jews Jewish *in Cyberspace*

Willie Sutton, the notorious criminal, was once asked why he robbed banks. He reportedly quipped, “Because that’s where the money is!” With a world tethered to iPhones, tablets and laptops, Willie’s lesson has not been lost on missionaries targeting the Jewish community for conversion. For years they’ve declared that the Internet is now their most fertile field for evangelism.

Recognizing that cyberspace has become the front line in the struggle for Jewish hearts and minds, Jews for Judaism launched its unique YouTube channel five years ago. More than 200 videos have been produced, covering issues from Jewish meditation to critical responses to missionary claims, and are being viewed over 2,000 times a day. Feedback has often been dramatic.

Sharon recently shared her incredible story. Three years ago she met Robert and began dating him. Unbeknownst to her, Robert was a trained missionary who moved to her city to work for an organization seeking to convert Jews. On their third date, Sharon discovered this and was understandably both upset and confused. She didn’t want to end their relationship and



The Jews for Judaism YouTube channel, featuring Rabbi Skobac, has received 3 million views.

suggested that they explore their religious differences.

While searching online, they came across the 15-part Jews for Judaism Counter-Missionary Seminar and used it for their study of the differences between Judaism and Christianity. Sharon and Robert spent months going over the material, debating and thinking. Ultimately, Robert found the videos so compelling that he began to consider Judaism as an option. After two years of further study, he converted to Judaism and they married. Today, Robert and Sharon

are committed to living and growing together in their Judaism.

One special playlist on the YouTube channel was developed for deaf Jews. This population is particularly vulnerable to missionary efforts directed at them and very few Jewish resources are available to help the Jewish deaf. Rabbi Michael Skobac has produced seven videos, simultaneously signed on a split screen, focusing on Jewish spirituality and counter-missionary content.

A serious challenge to Jewish identity, particularly on college and

university campuses, is the growing impact of anti-Israel propaganda and the BDS movement. Jewish students are often poorly prepared for and intimidated by this hostility. To help inspire young Jews to be more knowledgeable and confident regarding Israel’s just cause, a new section of the YouTube channel is dedicated to educational programs focusing on the Jewish connection to Israel.

The impact of these videos is enhanced through their integration into a widespread presence on social media, including Facebook and Twitter. This allows viewers the opportunity to go beyond the videos and explore further by asking questions and engaging in an ongoing dialogue.

Positive feedback comes in each day. Sarah recently wrote, “My husband and I learned so much from your YouTube lectures. I feel like we are coming home for the first time. I wanted to thank you for being a light. We are very grateful for all that you do. You inspire so many.” ■

For info, to book a program, arrange a private consultation or donate, go to www.jewsforjudaism.ca.

DEEPENING JEWISH EXPERIENCE

The Spiritual Dimension

with Rabbi Michael Skobac



If you want to deepen your understanding of Judaism, if you are seeking more from your Jewish experience, or if you are just curious — then this seminar is for you! In six stimulating sessions, Rabbi Skobac explores Jewish wisdom and inspirational teachings, revealing their profound relevance to your life.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- The Structure and Goals of Judaism
- Creating The Masterpiece That is You
- Personal Growth Through Mussar
- Prayer, Meditation, Connect With G-d
- Shabbat and Holidays: Islands in Time
- Every Day, Down to Earth Spirituality
- Seeking G-d: Faith and Doubt

Six consecutive Mondays, October 23 to November 27 • 8 PM

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM Congregation, 470 Glencairn Avenue, Toronto
Admission: FREE • Donations welcome • Registration is required:
Call 416-789-0020 or send an email to: carol@jewsforjudaism.ca

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JUDAISM

← and →

CHRISTIANITY

At the Cross Roads

with
Rabbi Michael Skobac

If you're interested in the relationship between Judaism and Christianity, this enlightening 6-week series will explore many of the most significant issues. Historical, theological and biblical source material will be analyzed and discussed.

Topics Include:

- The Jewish Messianic Hope
- Judaism & Christianity: The Split
- Scripture Twisting
- Isaiah 53: Who is G-d's Servant?
- The Battle for the Jewish Soul
- Evangelical Christians and Israel

Six consecutive Wednesdays, October 25 to November 29 • 8 PM

Lipa Green Centre, Room 1, 4600 Bathurst St, Toronto • Admission: FREE
Registration required: Call 416-789-0020 or email carol@jewsforjudaism.ca



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KEEPING JEWS JEWISH

SAVING JEWISH LIVES

Jews for Judaism is the only international educational outreach and counselling organization exclusively dedicated to counteracting the efforts of Christian missionary and cult groups that target Jews for conversion. Our two primary goals are to strengthen Jewish pride and identity through preventive education programs, materials and global Internet outreach, and to win back to Judaism those vulnerable Jews who have been influenced by missionaries, cults and assimilation. To date, over four million people worldwide have participated in Jews for Judaism (Canada)'s dynamic education, counselling and online Internet programs.



Thwarting missionaries on the Walk with Israel.



Foiling Jews for Jesus proselytizers in Toronto.



Every year, thousands attend Rabbi Michael Skobac's lectures, which are recorded for Internet broadcast.

Jews for Judaism unites the Jewish community in a common cause. We have earned endorsements from a spectrum of Jewish agencies, rabbis and educators. Thank you for your generosity in helping us to Save Jewish Lives. Remember, the person you help rescue could easily be your friend, neighbour or even your own child.

**Jews for
Judaism**

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