



GIFT OF

Dr. Max Landsberg, Rochester, N.Y.

JEWISH EDUCATIONAL COURSE. No. 1.

PRIMARY CATECHISM

THE JEWISH RELIGION.

For the use of Infant and other Schools.

(COMPILED BY D. PIKE.)

Montreal:

PRINTED BY JOHN LOVELL

5612.

[1852]

ADVERTISEMENT TO FIRST EDITION.

THE present little Catechism is reprinted for the Hebrew Sunday School in this city, and for Jewish children in Canada, generally. Practically assured of its usefulness as a First Catechism, I would earnestly recommend Parents not to delay making their children, however young, acquainted with it, that they may realize the words of Holy Writ, and that "strength may be ordained out of the mouth of babes and sucklings." And I would take this opportunity more particularly to recommend Parents and Guardians, even in those parts of the Province where there is no Congregation as yet regularly organized, to form schools (say to meet on Sundays,) for the exclusively religious instruction of the young; and, at the same time, to procure a general and regular attendance for them, when they do exist; for it is impossible to estimate too highly the immense amount of good which has accrued from the establishment of Sunday Schools, and which may, and under the Divine favour, shall yet accrue therefrom.

ABRAHAM DE SOLA.

Montreal, Chanukah, 5612.)
December, 1851.)

JEWISH EDUCATIONAL COURSE. No. 1.

A

PRIMARY CATECHISM

OF

THE JEWISH RELIGION.

For the use of Infant and other Schools.

(COMPILED BY E. PIKE.)

Montreal:

PRINTED BY JOHN LOVELL.

5612.

[1852]

PRAYERS.

O God, give unto us the help we need; give us bread to eat, and raiment to put on, and instruction to understand thy mercies; may we be grateful for all thy goodness; may we be dutiful to our parents; honest in all our dealings; true in our words and actions; affectionate in our behaviour to one another; attentive to our teachers; and, above all, ardent and devout in adoring thee alone the God of our fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; enlighten our faith, that we may daily repeat the acknowledgment of thy unity. "Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord. Blessed be the name of the glory of his kingdom for ever and ever." Amen.

Heavenly Father, we pray thee to enable us to pursue our studies to our teacher's satisfaction, and to our own profit. O God, look down upon us, and make us better children; permit us to benefit by what we may hear this day said. May we understand and acknowledge thy Unity, and all the other blessed truths of our holy faith. Oh grant that we may be obedient to our parents and teachers; but, above all, that we may be grateful and obedient to thee, O Lord, for all the mercies, kindnesses, and blessings, so constantly bestowed on us. And, O Lord, guard us from all temptation and sin, for thy blessed name's sake. Amen.

E.

A PRIMARY CATECHISM,

ETC.

Part I.

ANSWERS IN RHYME.

Q. Who formed you, child, and made you live?

A. God did my life and spirit give.

Q. Who keeps you safely, can you tell?

A. God keeps me safe, and makes me well.

Q. Has God made known the way of truth?

A. The Bible is the guide of youth.

Q. What should you feel towards God above?

A. Honour and fear and grateful love.

Q. Does God know all you do and say?

A. Yes! and my thoughts, too, night and day.

Q. Have you an evil heart within?

A. Yes, or I should not often sin.

Q. How does your heart its evil show?

A. By sinful words, and actions, too.

Q. And does not sin God's anger move?

A. Yes! for I sin against his love.

Q. Must you repent, with humble heart?

A. Yes! and from every sin depart.

- Q. How should a child begin to pray?
 A. Lord, teach me what to think and say.
 Q. Must you of every lie beware?
 A. Yes! with most strict and constant care.
 Q. Must you in anger ever be?
 A. From pride and anger I must flee.
 Q. Must you your books and teachers love?
 A. Yes, but much more, my God above.
 Q. What must you, your parents show?
 A. Obedience, love, and honour, too.
 Q. What must your brothers in you find?
 A. A heart that's always mild and kind.
 Q. Must you your sisters always love?
 A. Yes! and be gentle as a dove.
 Q. How must you act to all you know?
 A. I must to all, my kindness show.
 Q. Will God regard the hymns you raise?
 A. Yes! God loves an infant's praise.
 Q. Who only can direct your youth?
 A. My God, the only God of truth.
 Q. And how may you his grace receive?
 A. In one true God, I must believe.

*Questions, the Answers of which consist of two
 lines in Rhyme.*

- Q. Who made you?
 A. 'Twas God who made my infant frame,
 'Twas God from whom my spirit came.
 Q. Who takes care of you?
 A. God keeps me safe, and makes me well:
 No child can all his goodness tell.
 Q. What books has God given to teach us?
 A. The Holy Scriptures, full of truth,
 Can guide and cleanse and teach our youth.
 Q. Should children love God?
 A. O, yes! the youngest child should love
 The gracious God who dwells above.
 Q. Does God always see you?
 A. All that I do or think or say,
 God knows, he sees me night and day.
 Q. How do children show that they have bad
 hearts?
 A. By wicked passions, words and ways;
 The heart its sinfulness betrays.
 Q. Is God angry with sinners?
 A. Yes! God is angry when we sin;
 He knows how wicked we have been.

- Q. Must you confess and repent of your sins?
 A. Yes! with an humble, broken heart,
 And from all sinful ways depart.
- Q. Do you love your God?
 A. O, Yes! I do with all my heart,
 And from him I will ne'er depart.
- Q. Does God regard the young?
 A. Though on his glorious throne above,
 Children he does regard with love.
- Q. Will God hear the praise of children?
 A. Yes! God will hear the hymn I raise,
 And God does love an infant's praise.
- Q. Do you need the help of God?
 A. The only God, the God of Truth,
 Alone can guide my thoughtless youth.
- Q. Must you always keep from lying?
 A. My tongue must never tell a lie,
 Because the God of Truth is nigh.
- Q. Must you keep from bad tempers?
 A. I must not in a passion be,
 Because the Holy God can see.
- Q. Should you try to learn, and be wise?
 A. The child is best, who soonest tries
 To learn to be both good and wise.
- Q. How must you act towards others?
 A. To others I must always be
 As I would have them be to me.

- Q. Must you love your father and mother?
 A. My father, and my mother, too,
 I must both love and honour you.
- Q. How must you act towards your brothers?
 A. In me my brothers ought to find
 A heart that's always mild and kind.
- Q. How must you act towards your sisters?
 A. My sisters I must strive to please,
 And never injure, vex, nor tease.
- Q. How must you act towards other children, and
 to all people?
 A. I must, to all I know and see,
 Be kind as any child² can be.
- Q. Do children often die?
 A. Children have died as young as I,
 And soon I may be sick and die.
- Q. Will God judge the young?
 A. The Lord will judge both small and great,
 And fix their everlasting state.
- Q. What should be your wish when you die?
 A. That God may take me, when I die,
 To live with him above the sky.

Part II.

CHAPTER I.

- Q. Who made you ?
 A. God.
 Q. Why did God make you ?
 A. God made me that I might know him, love him, and serve him for ever in Heaven.
 Q. In whose likeness did God make you ?
 A. In his own image and likeness.
 Q. Is this likeness in your body or in your soul ?
 A. In my soul.
 Q. In what is your soul like to God ?
 A. Because my soul is a spirit, and immortal.
 Q. What do you mean when you say that your soul is immortal ?
 A. I mean that my soul can never die.
 Q. How shall we know with certainty what God has taught ?
 A. From the Holy Bible, which is the pillar and ground of truth.

CHAPTER II.

- Q. Who is God ?
 A. He is the Maker and Lord of Heaven and Earth.
 Q. Why is God called Almighty ?
 A. Because God can do all things, and nothing is hard or impossible for him.
 Q. Why is God called Creator of Heaven and Earth ?
 A. Because God made Heaven and Earth, and all things, out of nothing.
 Q. Had God any beginning ?
 A. No! God always was, and always will be.
 Q. Where is God ?
 A. God is every where.
 Q. If God be every where, why do we not see him ?
 A. Because God is a pure spirit, having no body.
 Q. Does God know and see all things ?
 A. Yes ? God knows and sees all things, even our most secret thoughts and actions.
 Q. Are there more gods than one ?
 A. No ! there is but one God.

CHAPTER III.

Ten Commandments.

Q. Who gave the commandments?

A. God gave them to Moses on Mount Sinai.

Q. What is the first commandment?

A. I am the Lord thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, and out of the house of bondage; thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Q. What is commanded by this?

A. To believe, hope in, love and serve one true and living God, and no more.

Q. What is the second commandment?

A. Thou shalt not make thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in the Heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the waters under the earth thou shalt not bow down to them, nor serve them.

Q. What are we forbidden by this commandment?

A. To worship false gods or idols, or to give any thing else, whatsoever, the honour which belongs to God.

Q. Does this commandment forbid us to make images?

A. It forbids the making of images, to adore and serve them. That is, it forbids making them our gods.

Q. What is the third commandment?

A. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who taketh his name in vain.

Q. What are we commanded by this?

A. To avoid all false, rash, unjust, and unnecessary oaths; also, cursing, blaspheming, and profane words.

Q. What is the fourth commandment?

A. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.

Q. What are we forbidden by this commandment?

A. All unnecessary work, and sinful profanation of the Sabbath day.

Q. What is the fifth commandment?

A. Honour thy father and mother.

Q. What are we commanded by the fifth commandment?

A. To love, honour, and obey our parents in all that is not sinful.

- Q. Are we commanded to obey only our father and mother ?
- A. Not only them, but also our teachers, magistrates, and masters.
- Q. What is forbidden by this commandment ?
- A. Contempt, stubbornness, and disobedience to our lawful superiors.
- Q. And what is the duty of parents and other superiors ?
- A. To take proper care of those under their charge, and to bring up their children in the fear of God.
- Q. What is the sixth commandment ?
- A. Thou shalt not kill.
- Q. What does the sixth commandment forbid ?
- A. Wilful murder, hatred, and revenge.
- Q. Does it forbid strife ?
- A. Yes ! as anger, quarrelling, and injurious words.
- Q. What else ?
- A. Giving ear to scandal and showing a bad example.
- Q. What is the seventh commandment ?
- A. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- Q. What are we forbidden by this ?
- A. All kinds of immodesty by looks, words, or actions.

- Q. What is the eighth commandment ?
- A. Thou shalt not steal.
- Q. What is forbidden by this commandment ?
- A. Unjustly taking away or keeping what belongs to others.
- Q. What else ?
- A. All manner of cheating in buying or selling, or any other way of wronging our neighbours.
- *Q. Must we restore ill gotten goods ?
- A. Yes ! if we are able, or else the sin will not be forgiven.
- Q. What is the ninth commandment ?
- A. Thou shalt not bear false-witness against thy neighbour.
- Q. What is forbidden by this commandment ?
- A. False testimonies, rash judgments, and lies.
- Q. What else ?
- A. All backbitings and detraction, or words and speeches by which our neighbour's honour or reputation is in any way hurt.
- Q. What is he bound to do who has injured his neighbour by speaking ill of him ?
- A. He must make him satisfaction and restore his good name, as far as he is able.

- Q. What is the tenth commandment?
- A. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife ;
thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's goods.
- Q. What is forbidden by this?
- A. Covetous thoughts and unjust desires of our
neighbour's goods and profit.

CHAPTER IV.

Of the Virtues.

- Q. What are the qualities on which religion is
based?
- A. Faith, hope, and charity.
- Q. What is faith?
- A. A fervent belief in God, his wisdom, power
and mercy, and in the revelation of his holy
will.
- Q. What is hope?
- A. It is the expectation that God will grant all our
proper desires.
- Q. What is charity?
- A. A feeling of universal good will to all mankind,
because all are created by God.

- Q. How may true charity be shown?
- A. By feeding the hungry, giving drink to the
thirsty, clothing the naked, visiting and re-
leasing the captive, sheltering the houseless,
visiting the sick, and burying the dead.
- Q. Which are the two precepts of charity?
- A. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all
thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy
strength, and with all thy mind ;" secondly,
"Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."
- Q. Are there any others?
- A. Yes ; admonishing the weak, instructing the
ignorant, counselling the doubtful, comforting
the sorrowful, bearing wrongs patiently, for-
giving injuries, praying for all men.
- Q. Let me hear you express the love that you have
towards God and your neighbours.
- A. O ! my God, I love thee above all things with
my whole heart and soul, because thou art
infinitely good, and deserving of all love ; I
love also my neighbour as myself, for the love
of thee ; I forgive all who have injured me,
and ask pardon of all I have injured.

HYMN.

We are but young ; yet we may sing
The praises of our Heavenly King ;
He made the earth, the sea, and sky,
And all the starry worlds on high.

We are but young ; yet we have heard,
From the true God, the Heavenly word ;
If we despise the only way,
Dreadful will be the judgment day.

We are but young ; yet God has shed
Unnumbered blessings on our head :
Then let our youth, and riper days,
Be all devoted to his praise.

Gaylord 
PAMPHLET BINDER
 Syracuse, N. Y.
Stockton, Calif.