

Update from Rabbi Hayyim Angel, National Scholar of the Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals

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Rabbi Hayyim Angel is the National Scholar of the Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals. He is author and editor of ten books and numerous articles. He teaches Tanakh and Jewish Studies at Yeshiva University, and is a highly regarded teacher and lecturer.

October, 2013

To our members and friends: Thanks again for your enthusiastic support and encouragement. Here are a number of updates on my work as National Scholar of the Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals. ·

We have created a new area on our website, jewishideas.org, Online Learning. On this page you can find a list of links to online classes I have given. We expect this area to grow rapidly as we offer new classes through the Institute. Please join in the online learning at jewishideas.org. ·

The Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals is co-sponsoring a nine-part series of weekly classes with Lincoln Square Synagogue on the Book of Judges. This course will be held at Lincoln Square Synagogue, 68th and Amsterdam, New York City. Classes are on Wednesday evenings 7:15-8:15 pm, from October 16-December 18 (except November 27). Classes are free and open to the public. There are sponsorship opportunities available (suggested sponsorship: \$360). For more information contact Ms. Elana Stein-Hain, mesh@lss.org. ·

I will be giving a four-part mini-course at the Young Israel of Jamaica Estates, Queens: Three classes on Biblical Wisdom (Proverbs, Job, Kohelet), Sunday

evenings, 7:30-8:30 pm, October 13, 20, 27. On Sunday, November 17, 7:30-8:30 pm, separate lecture on “The Books of the Maccabees and Rabbinic Thought: Getting to the Roots of Hanukkah.” Classes are free and open to the public. ·

I am lecturing for the Columbia/Barnard Hillel, in conjunction with our University Network program: “Learning Faith from the Text, or Text from Faith: The Challenges of Teaching and Learning the Avraham Narratives and Commentary.” Sunday, October 27, 12:00pm. ·

I am teaching a course this fall semester on “How to Teach Bible in Synagogues” for the Graduate Program for Women in Advanced Talmudic Study at Stern College for Women (Yeshiva University). The goal is to train these elite students how to serve more effectively as scholars-in-residence or as future synagogue professionals. This course is open to students in the Graduate Program only. ·

I spoke at the Book Reception for a new commentary by Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik on the Torah: Chumash Mesorat HaRav: Chumash with Commentary Based on the Teachings of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik. This project was sponsored by pillars of our Institute, Stephen and Nataly Neuwirth. The event was held at the Young Israel of New Rochelle on October 6. ·

I delivered the Queens College Annual Sephardic Lecture, “A Sephardic Approach to Tradition and Modernity,” on October 9. The lecture was sponsored by our member, Mrs. Elsi Levy. Here are some other projects I have been working on: · Development of a lecture series on the religious philosophy of our Institute.

Through a series of lectures in Manhattan (we are close to determining time and location, and will let you know as soon as we do), and a number of lectures elsewhere, we will explore several central topics that impact on contemporary Jewish life. Our goal is to create a faithful, expansive worldview that incorporates great teachings from throughout the Jewish world. This series, along with my teaching of Bible, will play a major role my work in different communities and campuses throughout the country.

If your community is interested in a lecture/program, please contact me at hangel@jewishideas.org. ·

I have prepared a Synagogue Companion with commentary on the Torah, Haftarat, and the Shabbat morning prayer service. This volume will contain short pieces—generally 300-500 words each, to deliver meaningful content to people of all backgrounds. The Institute will publish this volume in January 2014, and will

distribute it to Institute members and to synagogues across the country. ·

There will soon be a new revised version of my first collection of biblical studies, Through an Opaque Lens: The Bible Refracted through Eternal Rabbinic Wisdom, as an electronic book (with Kodesh Press). The goal is to bring this project to fruition and then do the same for the next two collections, Revealed Texts, Hidden Meanings and Creating Space between Peshat and Derash. ·

I am working with the Aleph Beta Academy (alephbeta.org) to develop online classes that survey the Bible. Thus far my classes on the Books of Joshua and Lamentations are online, and Judges should follow shortly. I welcome your ideas and suggestions. Please feel free to contact me at hangel@jewishideas.org.

If you are a member of the Institute, I thank you for your support. If you are not yet a member, please join us by making your membership contribution at jewishideas.org.