Varieties of Modern Orthodoxy

Dr. Brill
Spring 2004

Introduction

Unit 1 Traditionalism
1) Shadal
   i. Genesis
   ii. M. Hartom, *Peraqim be-mishnato shel ShaDa"L*
2) Chief Rabbi Herman Adler, *Anglo Jewish Memoirs*
3) Hertz, *Pentateuch*, essays at the end of Genesis, Exodus, and Leviticus
4) Rabbi Isaac Leeser, *Discourses of the Jewish Religion*
5) Rabbi Leo Jung,
   i. What Is Orthodoxy?
   ii. Selected sermons
   iii. Modern Marriage Problems
6) Herman Wouk, *This is My God*, chapter 3
7) R. Joseph Lookstein,
   i. *Sources of Courage* (selections)
   ii. *Practical Rabbinics- Guide*
8) Trude Weiss-Rosmarin, “Is Judaism Old-Fashioned?”
9) Morris Lichtenstein, (selections)
10) Rabbi de Sola Pool, *Thanksgiving Service*
11) Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, *Dignity of Difference* (suggested-not required-not on web)

Unit 2 Religious Zionism
1) R. Elhanan Spector, Letter against secular studies
2) Rabbi Isaac Reines,
   i. *Or Hadash al Zion* (selections)
   ii. The Mission of the Holy Yeshiva of Lida (handout- not on Web*)
3) Zev Yaavetz *Leket Ketavim*
4) R. Wolf Gold, *Emet veEmunah*
5) Rabbi S. K. Mirsky, Intro to first issue of Talpiot
6) R. Pinhas Churgin,
   i. “Hellenism and Hebraism” *Masmid* 1932
   ii. Pinhas Churgin, *An oral history of the early years of the Teachers Institute and Yeshiva University*, (Yeshiva University, 1994) selections
7) R. Bernard Revel, “The Yeshiva College”
8) R. Leon Gellman, be-shevilei ha-yahadut (not required)
9) *Sefer Yovel Mizrachi* (1936) (not required)
Unit 2.5 Other Eastern European Rabbis
R. Hayyim Hirschsohn – Malki baKodesh (selections)
(Hebrewbooks.org for much more)

Unit 3 Torah-True Polemical Traditionalism
1) Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch
   i. *Judaism Eternal* volume II- “Judaism allied to Progress”
   ii. Ibid, “How Can We Carry Jewish Learning Into Practical life”
   iii. Psalms – chapter 1
   iv. Horeb pp. 64, 86-90 (Not on the Web)
2) Dayan Grunfeld Introduction to Horeb xl- cxl (Not on the Web)
4) Rabbi D. Z. Hoffman
   i. Introduction to Leviticus
   ii. “On Torah and Wissenshaft” (In Torah uMadda Journal-volume 6)
5) Rabbi Nechemias Nobel – sermons
6) Rabbi Yehiel Weinberg, eulogy and articles
7) Rabbi Jakob Barth, Introduction to Isaiah

Unit 4 Modern Orthodoxy
Readings:
1) Rabbi Samuel Belkin,
   i. *Essays in Traditional Jewish Thought* (selections)
   ii. “Philosophy of Purpose” in *Studies in Torah Judaism*
2) R. Hayyim Halevi Donin, *To Be a Jew* Introduction
3) Rabbi Eliezer Berkovits, *Essential Essays of Eliezer Berkovits*, chapters 1-5, 10, 11 (not on the web)
4) Rabbi Emmanuel Rackman, “*Dialectic of The Halakhah*” “*Future of Jewish Law*” both in *Treasury of Tradition*
5) Rabbi Walter Wurzberger
   i. “Covenantal Imperatives” “Darkhei Shalom”
   ii. “Alienation and Exile” Pluralism and the halakhah” Oral Law and the Conservative Dilemma” in *Treasury of Tradition*
   iii. Sermons
   iv. “*Metahalakhic prepositions*”
      http://www.rabbiwurzburger.org/PDF/Meta-Halakhic Propositions.PDF
6) Rabbi Shubert Spero, “Is Judaism Optimistic?” in *Treasury of Tradition*
7) *RCA Sermon Manuel – hebrewbooks.org*
8) Rabbi Sol Roth,
   i. Religion and Science 564-573 [527-542] in *Studies in Torah Judaism*
   ii. “Idea of Synthesis” The Jewish Idea of Community
9) R. Norman Lamm, *Faith and Doubt “Two Versions of Synthesis”*
    “Intro To Extraterrestrial life”
10) R. Maurice Lamm, *The Jewish Way in Death and Mourning* (selected pages)
11) Jewish Life – assorted articles
    i. Critique of Conservative Judaism
    ii. The New RIETS and its products
    iii. Goals and vision for modern orthodox Jews

Secondary Literature:

1) Jonah Steinberg, “From a Pot of Filth to a Hedge of Roses (and Back Again)”
2) Martin Marty, Modern American religion volume III selections

Unit 4.5 The 1960’s and 70’s
Readings:
1) Rabbi Yitz Greenberg and R. Aharon Lichtenstein in *Commentator*
2) R. Yitz Greenberg and R. Danzinger in *Jewish Observer*
3) *Jewish Observer* criticisms of modern Orthodoxy
4) Shlomo Riskin, articles
5) Robert Wuthnow, *After Heaven* chapters 1, 3, 4, 7 (also relevant for early Centrism)
6) Meir Kahane, (I will give you articles to look at on their own website)
7) Yitta Halberstam Mandelbaum, Holy Brother chapters 1, 2, 9 (not on web)

Unit 5 Centrism
Readings
1) Rav H. Schachter,
   i. *Nefesh Harav* be-inyane mesorah, pp. 34-58, skim 59-71 (not on web)
   ii. Torah web selections
   iii. Mitzvah of Yishuv Eretz Yisrael in *Religious Zionism* ed. Shubert Spero
2) Rav Lichtenstein (not on the web)
   i. By His Light – chapters 1
   ii. Leaves of Faith- volume 1 chapters 1-4, volume 2 chapters 1, 12, 14, 15
3) R. Norman Lamm, *Seventy Faces* chapters 4, 5, 13
4) R. Bleich, Contemporary Halakhic Problems (selections)
5) Rav Mayer Twersky – articles from Torah web
6) Torah uMadda Journal volumes 1 and 2 Rabbis Parnes, Willig, Blau, Rosensweig, and Carmy.
7) R. Shalom Carmy, article in Academe (online) (and others)

Secondary Literature
8) Christian Smith, American Evangelicalism (handout)
9) Alan Wolf, “The Opening of the Evangelical Mind” (handout)
10) Rachael Adler, “Innovation and Authority”

Unit 6 Open Orthodoxy
1) Rabbi Avi Weiss “Open Orthodoxy”
2) JOFA Journal – selections (online)

I will give the second half of the reading list later in the semester.
Unit 7 Rav Soloveitchik
Unit 8 Engaged Yeshivish
Unit 9 Chabad
Unit 10 Torah veAvodah
Unit 11 State Religious Zionism
Unit 12 R. Zvei Yehudah and his followers
Unit 13 The New Religious Zionists