

The *mitzvot*, the message of Torah, the teachings of monotheism and ethics and morality and law, have proven eternal and immortal. When the soul of a Jew is attuned to ~~through~~ this message of Torah, when that soul becomes, as it were, one of its *mitzvot*, it attains that lofty state of eternal endurance, of sacred immortality. I should like to think that loving, devoted and truly pious couple in whose memory this *Q-10* was presented, are part of its script. They led a life of Torah; they practiced a behavior of *mitzvot*; their hopes, faith, dreams, prayers & aspirations were all part and parcel of Torah Judaism. That script is not only the lettering on the parchment, it is the record of Man's upward reach to G-d; the call of G-d as He descends to Man; it is the eternal relevance of Torah's morality and Law in all times & places; it is the very spirit of reverence & dedication & love that permeates our atmosphere this very evening. No ~~fit~~ more appropriate ~~memorial~~ monument could be raised in their memory. For in no other way could their spirits be so ^{enshrined} ~~cherished~~, revered & eternalized.

But if this *Q-10* were merely a memorial to two good and faithful people, it would be a pity indeed. A *Q-10* must necessarily be more than a literary ^{religious} monument.

Jewish Tradition tells us that in the Camp of the Children of Israel in the Sinai Desert, where Moses led them on the way from Egypt to the Promised Land, there were two *Q-10s*.

The ark they took with them in their wars, in their conquest of
 Canaan and their possession of a land of Pagan lands into a
 Holy Land, that ark contained the 10. But the ark
 that was stationary, that remained with them in their camp,
 that contained not a 10 but the ~~10~~ jagged remnants of
 the Tablets of the Ten Commandments, which Moses had broken in
 his anger at the Aulem of Israel.

when an ark is conceived of as being stationary; when it is
 not allowed to interfere in the personal things and adventures of man's
 life; when it is kept only for its historical or sentimental ^{or ornamental} value,
 then it cannot contain a 10. It then holds in it only
 the jagged remnants of Broken Commandments. These,
 too, have historical + sentimental value; they are a tender,
 moving reminder of the past. But the Commandments are
 broken; they are irrelevant, they are meaningless, they
 have lost their vitality, their ability to influence the lives of men is gone.

when, however, that ark is mobile - when
 it follows - way, leads - them ~~into~~ in their wars, in their ^{daily} struggles,
 when it is near to them in their moments of crisis & decision;
 when it forms the pattern for their dreams, the basis of their prayers
 + the substance of their hopes; when it is taken along into the offices
 + shops, stress factories; when it is made part + parcel of life

for bread + shelter;

and is held up as a living guide ~~and~~ to Present & Future & not merely as a sentimental souvenir of an overidealized past; then it contains no ~~ideal~~, then it holds within its sacred precincts the Holy Torah itself, whose Parchment, though perishable, is beautiful; and whose Letters, though Eternal, are timely.

The Ark that remains in the Camp, detached ^{from} & Uninvolved in the Jew's life, may be ornamental, polished & outwardly attractive. But it is merely ^{pretty} ~~an~~ a casket for a ~~deifying~~ ^{dead} the burden corpse of a Religion that ~~was~~ ^{is now no more.} The ark that travels with him may be dirty with the soot ~~and grime~~ ^{of the Highway} of the great Road of Life - it may be soiled from the tender caresses of ~~many~~ ^{the} hands ~~stained~~ ^{stained with} the grime of honest toil. But in it lies the ~~is~~, a dynamic, living, pulsating Heart that beats ⁱⁿ a Divine rhythm of unceasing vitality, and through which flows the life-blood of countless generations of scholars and sages, of Prophets and Poets, of just plain good Jews who lived Jewish lives & found favor in the eyes of God & Man.

As we return this new member of the family of ~~is~~ of Kodimuk into the Ark, let us determine that this Ark shall be ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~is~~; it shall be the Ark which will be with us, go with us, encourage us, comfort us, remind us, inspire us, reproach us, reward us and eternally accompany us. Let us, each of us, in other words, so dedicate ourselves to God & Torah, that we shall each individually become an Ark; so that within us shall be not ~~is~~, not sentimentalized

fragments of broken tablets, but DIM'100 - The eternal youth
of an ever-vital Torah Judaism, whose letters will ^{always} sweeten the
air we breathe and whose message will be clearly stamped in
the lives we lead. Amen.