

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

The Nazi threatened march may become a reality challenging our very sensibilities as survivors whether in actuality or through others with whom we stand. Such has been judged by the courts to be the law of the land and it seems Freedom of Speech is more immediate than Freedom from Fear. The Holocaust has become history rather than the living hell it is and shall always remain and Jews again must bear witness to what others may want to view as now past.

I am grateful a major TV network — NBC — will air a nine-hour special beginning April 16th and continuing three straight nights teaching us anew eternal lessons as old as our people's Egyptian experience and as new as the tragedy of Nazism. Please watch this special with your family. It is Jewish responsibility, yea, a mitzvah to do so!

Furthermore, Freedom of Religion must be part of our response to our enemies. Our Synagogue can be a bulwark of strength especially in these troubled days. Worship is as much a part of us as Jews now as ever before. Cantor Shuster has provided a variety of liturgical music touching many facets of the Jewish soul. Hassidic, Ashkenazic and Sephardic expressions both inspire and uplift. Yet it is not only the Worship pattern offered but it is the worshipper himself who is crucial.

The Jew who knows and loves his tradition always has a strength of faith which inwardly sustains regardless of outside pressures. Such is what uplifts from the depth of difficulty in this Nazi muddiness in which we are presently mired.

Nazism is Hometz in a Passover setting but we can clean ourselves of this accumulated mess.

Prayer, Study and Deeds of Loving Kindness — in the spirit of Jewish affirmation is the Passover message leading us from Slavery to Freedom and from bondage to liberation.

Faithfully,
RABBI NEIL BRIEF