



UL9. Moses

MOSES

The mighty figure of Moses on Mount Sinai, holding the two Tablets of the Commandments, bestrides this magnificent window. Behind him are seen flashes of lightning, an echo of the Biblical description “And all the people saw the thunderings and the lightning and the mountain full of smoke”. The text is Exodus 32.15 — וירד משה מן ההר “And Moses went down from the mountain”.

Below him, in complete contrast to the sublime figure of the Lawgiver, are seen the Israelites in a frenzy of idol-worship, prostrating themselves to the Golden Calf.

JACOB’S LADDER

This window illustrates the beautiful story of Jacob at Bethel. He sleeps on the stony ground and dreams of the ladder stretching from earth to heaven. On it there are angels ascending and descending. The vision brings comfort and strength to the lonely exile who now understands that God is with him on the perilous journey that lies ahead. The Hebrew words are from the biblical context —

והנה מלאכי אלהים עולים ויורדים בו

“And behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it”. GEN. 28.12.

The top medallion has the Hebrew — שער השמים “The gates of Heaven”. GEN. 28.17, around a picture of gates — indicated in the story.

The bottom medallion illustrates the anointing of the stone with oil, by which act Jacob symbolised that the stone on which he had slept was sanctified.

“Dedicated to the memory of Israel Lionel Lyons 1874-1948 — a friend of Jewish youth”.



UL10. Jacob's Ladder

UL11. *Miriam*

MIRIAM

Two incidents in the life of Miriam illustrates this window — a central feature of the Ladies Gallery.

Above, she is seen leading the daughters of Israel away from the Red Sea where the Egyptian armies had met their fate. With song and dance they sing praises to God for their miraculous deliverance from the hands of Egypt.

The Hebrew text is from Exodus 15.20 —

וּתְקָה מִרְיָם אֶת הַתֵּף בְּיָדָהּ

“And Miriam took a timbrel in her hand”.

Below, she can be discerned hiding in the bulrushes while watching her infant brother, Moses. The daughter of Pharaoh, coming to bathe in the river, discovers the child in the cradle.

MOSES STRIKING THE ROCK

This window contains a composite of several incidents in the history of Israel during its forty years' wandering in the Wilderness. The centre picture represents Moses striking the rock from which water gushed out to satisfy a thirsty people. The Hebrew quotation is from Numbers 20, 11 — וַיֵּצְאוּ מַיִם רַבִּים וַתִּשֶׂת הָעֵדָה וּבְעִירָם “And the water came out abundantly and the congregation drank and their cattle also”. The top illustration represents a plate of manna—the food which sustained the people throughout their long years in the Wilderness.

Below is shown an illustration of two of the twelve spies returning from their exploration of Canaan, carrying the cluster of grapes. The fruit was so large that it had to be carried suspended from a pole.

UL12. *Moses striking the rock*



UL13. Joseph

JOSEPH

This colourful window recalls two dramatic moments in the life of Joseph.

The larger illustration shows him as a slave interpreting the dream which has disturbed Pharaoh, King of Egypt. His explanation convinces the king that Joseph has the spirit of God in him and he appoints the lad Viceroy of Egypt. GEN. 41.41 — ראה נתתי אתך על כל ארץ מצרים — “See I have set thee over all the land of Egypt”.

The smaller illustration shows Joseph, dressed in princely garments welcoming his aged father Jacob, when the latter hearing that his son was still alive, comes to join him in Egypt.

THE MESSIANIC AGE

The window illustrates the well known legend ‘Chad Gadya’ in the Passover Haggadah.

It was an inspiration of the Rev. Dr. Chaim Pearl to use this story to illustrate how, in the Messianic Age, the Spirit of the Lord overcomes all evil. No similar pictorial representation is believed to exist. Israel the kid, ‘which my father bought for two zuzim’, is constantly attacked and persecuted by enemies throughout its history.

In Messianic days, the Almighty will destroy the persecutor and bring universal peace to a united world. The window is surmounted by rays of light shining down from Heaven upon a suffering world. The text is the familiar words of the ‘Shema’, ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord is One’.

שמע ישראל יהוה אחד

This sublime hope, the ultimate objective of all mankind is most appropriately portrayed as the final of the series of windows—the last to be seen before leaving the Synagogue.



UL14. The Messianic Age