



# Conejo West Valley Melton Courses

## Spring 2022 /Classes held via Zoom

### Bring your experience to the table

#### **K'tuvim Unscrolled - Torah and Prophets Through the Lens of Writings**

WITH REVITAL GOLDREICH  
MAR 22, 29, APR 5, 12, 26, MAY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  
10 TUESDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM  
\$370 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT  
INCLUDES MATERIALS

The third part of the Bible, "Writings", known in Hebrew as *K'tuvim*, is a mixture of history, prophecy, myth, and literature. In this course we will explore various inter-textual connections between *K'tuvim*, *Torah*, and *Prophets* to gain deeper understanding of both *K'tuvim* and the Bible as a whole. We will evaluate texts and commentary - in word and image – through historical, theological, and sociological lenses while considering ethics, geopolitics, and current culture to discover new perceptions and relevant ideas.

#### **From Revelation to Revolution (Exodus / Shemot Part II)**

WITH RABBI DALIA SAMANSKY  
MAR 22, 29, APR 5, 12, 26, MAY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  
10 TUESDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM  
\$370 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT  
INCLUDES MELTON BOOK

Following the exodus from Egypt, the Israelites find themselves wandering the desert, searching for meaning, and trying to stave off despair. This course follows the development of the emerging Jewish nation from their encounter at Sinai to the building of the tabernacle in the wilderness. Explore the high points, like the moment of divine revelation and the low points, like the Golden Calf. Through these action-packed biblical stories, gain a greater understanding of relevant laws and teachings that continue to bring great meaning and purpose to our lives.

#### **Mitzvah and Meaning**

WITH RABBI LISA BOCK  
MAR 23, 30, APR 6, 13, 27, MAY 4, 11, 18, 25, JUN 1  
10 WEDNESDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM  
\$370 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT  
INCLUDES MATERIALS

Is a mitzvah a good deed or a commandment? Can it be both? What is a mitzvah, and what is the fundamental intent of mitzvot? What does it mean to do a mitzvah? Must the performance of a mitzvah include kavannah/intention? Are some mitzvot more important than others? We will explore this and more, including the different kinds and categories of mitzvot and where they came from, the mitzvot of Purim, the mitzvot of Exodus, beautifying a mitzvah and the deeper examination of mitzvot and our relationship with the Divine.

Melton. Where You Come for the Learning  
and Stay for the Community.





# Have questions? Want to learn more?

Contact Melton Director Pamela Rooks at  
[pamela@templeetzchaim.org](mailto:pamela@templeetzchaim.org)



## Leadership Defied and Defended -- BeMidbar/Numbers

WITH MICHAEL RAILEANU  
MAR 24, 31, APR 7, 14, 28, MAY 5, 12, 19, 26, JUN 2  
10 THURSDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM  
\$370 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT  
INCLUDES MELTON BOOK

Leadership is a constant theme in the Torah. This course examines the different types of leaders found in the book of BeMidbar, including the famous pair of leaders: Moses and Aaron. Learners will see that while a good leader is a true blessing, having too many leaders results in infighting and dissent. BeMidbar is full of lessons on challenging authority for better and for worse— lessons just as relevant today as they were thousands of years ago. Let's sift through the sands of time to examine the concepts of "leader," "hero," "rebel" and "community" with fresh eyes.



## Timeless Tales, Modern Sensibilities: A Deep Look at the Books of Esther and Ruth

WITH REVITAL GOLDREICH  
MAR 24, 31, APR 7, 14, 28, MAY 5, 12, 19, 26, JUN 2  
10 THURSDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM  
\$370 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT  
INCLUDES MELTON BOOK

Discover contemporary meaning in timeless texts during this ten-lesson course on the stories in the Scrolls of Esther and Ruth. Explore themes of Jewish identity, gender, God's role in human affairs, and comedy. Delve into the lives of these two heroic women who changed the course of history, leaving a legacy that influences our lives today.



## Ancient Literary Devices in the Hebrew Bible

WITH RABBI YEHUDA HAUSMAN  
MAR 24, 31, APR 7, 14, 28, MAY 5, 12, 19, 26, JUN 2  
10 THURSDAY EVENINGS | 7:00-9:00 PM  
\$370 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT  
INCLUDES MATERIALS

This class is intended to be a thought-provoking introduction to studying the Hebrew Bible utilizing the literary methodology. The earliest readers of the Bible had little interest in historical accuracy, but held immense appreciation for literary devices, including irony, metaphor, chiasmic structure, numeric symbolism, foreshadow, allusion and alliteration. We will study narrative selections from the Torah, Prophets, the scroll of Esther and Lamentations. We will examine how aesthetic interests influenced genealogical and legal writing in the Bible. We will study from the JPS Tanach.

## FOR THOSE SEEKING A MORE MEANINGFUL JEWISH LIFE



# Never Stop Learning, Never Stop Growing

Experience the adventure of non-denominational Jewish text-study with great conversations and meaningful connections. No homework/No prep/No Hebrew required



## Three Jewish Philosophers

WITH MICHAEL RAILEANU  
MAR 20, 27, APRIL 3, 10, MAY 1, 15, 22  
7 SUNDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:30 AM  
\$260 / \$250 CASH DISCOUNT  
INCLUDES MATERIALS

Join us in a new 7-week course as we explore the writings and influence of three of Jewish History's most important philosophers: Philo of Alexandria, Saadya Gaon, and Judah HaLevi. These three men touched the world in ways far beyond their homes and time periods. Each had unique thoughts about God, existence, Judaism, and the life of the soul. We will compare and contrast their philosophies and discuss how their writings remain important today. No knowledge of Hebrew or previous study of Jewish philosophy will be necessary.



## Living Wisdom Core 1: Purposes of Jewish Living

WITH RABBI LESLIE ALEXANDER  
MAR 22, 29, APR 5, 12, 26, MAY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  
10 TUESDAY MORNINGS | 9:30-11:00AM  
\$310 / \$295 CASH DISCOUNT  
INCLUDES MELTON BOOK

Come face-to-face with Jewish texts and discover the profound intentions that have been a part of Judaism and Jewish living from ancient times to the present day. This course studies the moments that have shaped our collective experience, defining who we are as a people. Journey into the heart of Jewish thought and listen to the influential voices of our ancestors, modern philosophers, theologians, and rabbis throughout the generations.



## Living Wisdom Core 2: Ethics of Jewish Living

WITH MICHAEL RAILEANU  
FEB 8, 15, 22, MAR 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, APR 5, 12, 26, MAY 3, 10, 17, 24  
15 TUESDAY EVENINGS | 7:00-8:30 PM  
\$370 / \$360 CASH DISCOUNT  
INCLUDES MELTON BOOK

From the wisdom of our ancient sages to the words of contemporary rabbis, scholars, and thinkers, examine how the moral compass of the Jewish people has evolved throughout the ages. In this journey, explore challenging topics, enduring questions, and ethical dilemmas as they relate to interpersonal relationships, technology, charity, animals, our environment and more. Through a Jewish lens, discover the multifaceted ways of ethically conducting our lives as individuals and as a community.



To register for classes, visit  
[meltonwestvalley.org/registration](http://meltonwestvalley.org/registration)



**Jewish wisdom has traveled long  
and far to tell you something**

**Seek wisdom within our tradition,  
Seek without being sure what you'll find.**

**Trust that it will be worthwhile.**

For assistance with registration, payment or tuition, contact Conejo West Valley Melton Director, [Pamela@templeetzchaim.org](mailto:Pamela@templeetzchaim.org)

To register for classes, Click here: [Register for Classes](#)

Paying by check? Make your check payable to: Temple Etz Chaim  
Mail to 1080 E. Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Paying by Credit Card? Click here: [Class Payment and Donation](#)

Thank you for your participation in the ageless pursuit of Jewish wisdom

**Have you always wanted to learn modern Hebrew?**

This new Melton course is for students with minimal or no prior knowledge of Hebrew. You will learn reading, writing, and basic conversing. We will be using the textbook: Hebrew from Scratch Part 1. This course is an immersive Hebrew derived from the Israeli Ulpan method. Contact Melton Director Pamela Rooks at [pamela@templeetzchaim.org](mailto:pamela@templeetzchaim.org) for more information. Class day and time will be determined based upon student interest. Course will be taught by Dr. Sharon Furman-Lee.

