

Alfred Bader Fonds

Correspondence - General

Jacob, Walter
1993-1995

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DR. WALTER JACOB
RABBI
RODEF SHALOM TEMPLE
FIFTH AND MOREWOOD AVENUES
PITTSBURGH, PA. 15213
412-621-6566 FAX: 412-621-5475

13 February 1995

Dr Alfred R Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee WI 53211

Dear Dr Bader:

Through this letter I would just like to let you know about the international symposium which will be held in March in Jerusalem on my grandfather Benno Jacob. The program is enclosed. If you or members of your family happen to be in Jerusalem at that time, it would certainly be nice to see you there. With best wishes for a pleasant winter and kindest regards.

Sincerely,



Walter Jacob

/bb

We Invite You to an International Symposium

on

Benno Jacob - Biblical Scholar

Van Leer Institute
Albert Einstein Square
Jerusalem

Sunday, March 12, 1995 8.00 p.m. - 10.00 p.m.

Monday, March 13, 1995 10.00 a.m. - 12.00

YAAKOV ELMAN (Yeshiva University, New York, USA)
The Omni-Significance of Benno Jacob

ALMUTH JURGENSEN (Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche, Hamburg, Germany)
*The Fascination of
Benno Jacob and His Critique of Christian Scholarship*

MAREN RUTH NIEHOFF (Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel)
Benno Jacob's Concept of the "Science of Judaism"

GUNTHER PLAUT (Bible Commentator, Toronto, Canada)
The Singularity of Benno Jacob's Commentary - An Examination of Genesis 3

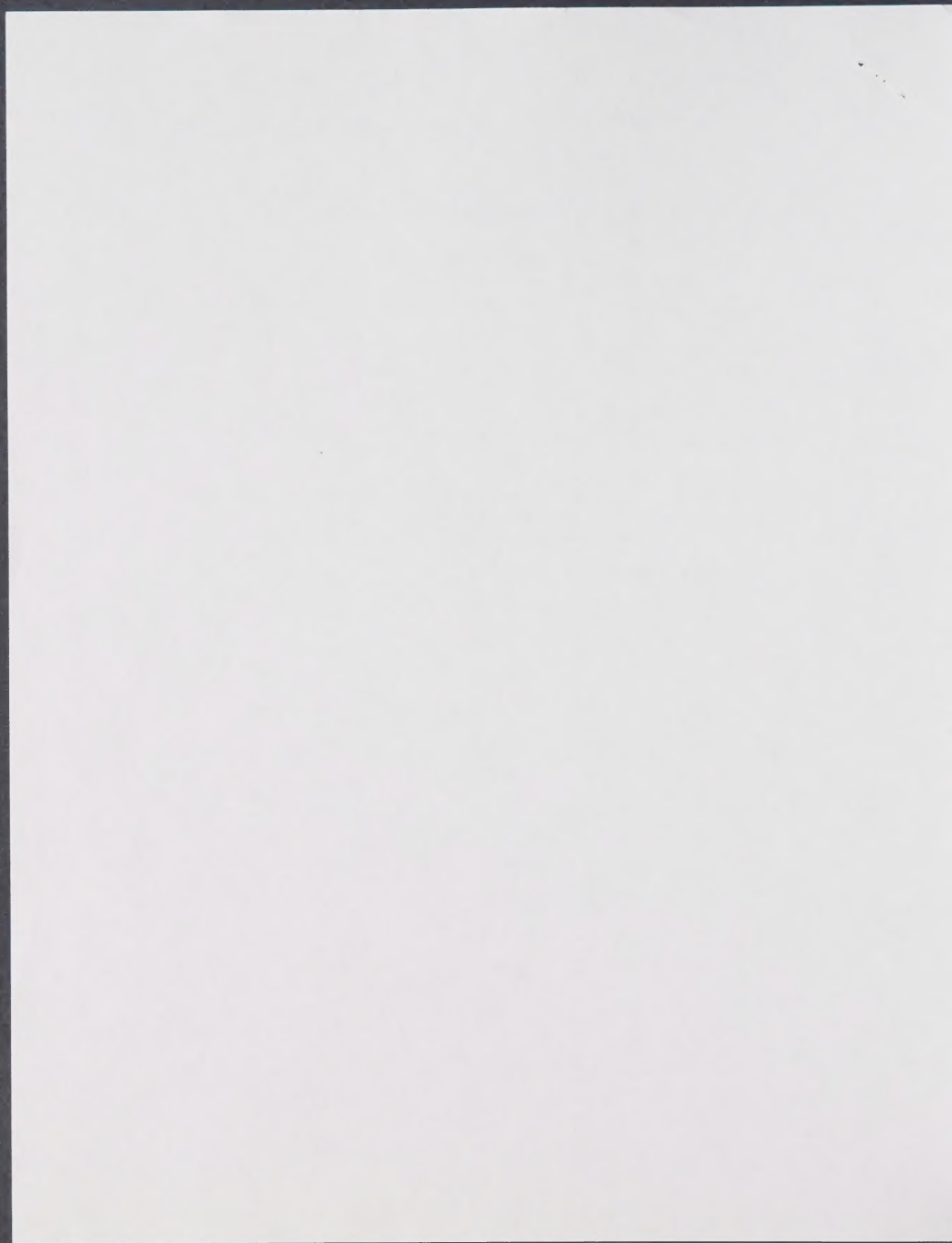
WALTER JACOB (Institute of Progressive Halakhah, Pittsburgh, USA)
*Scholarship in Wartime
The Final Phase of Benno Jacob's Biblical Studies*

Benno Jacob, the Biblical scholar and leading German rabbi (1862-1945) was an early opponent of the Graf/Wellhausen theories; in contrast to others, he used his linguistic insights and modern methods to construct a different approach to the Torah. A steady stream of books and essays (*Im Namen Gottes* [1903], *Der Pentateuch* [1905], *Die Abzählungen in den Gesetzen* [1909], *Quellenscheidung und Exegese* [1919], *Auge um Auge* [1929], etc.) culminated in the publication of his *Das Erste Buch der Torah, Genesis* [1934], a work of 1055 pages. An abridged English version was published in 1974. His *Exodus Commentary* of 1100 pages, appeared in an English translation in 1993. The destruction of German Jewry led to a neglect of his works. They have, however, been appreciated by scholars including Franz Rosenzweig, Martin Buber, Nahama Leibowitz, Gerhard von Rad, Brevard Childs, and others, who have often quoted them.

No Registration or Admission Charge

For further information contact

Walter Jacob, 4905 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (412) 621-6566; FAX (412) 621 5475
Hillel Blondheim, 22/46 Pinsker, Jerusalem, (02) 632-843; FAX (02) 611-682.



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20 August 1993

Dr Alfred R Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee WI 53211


Dear Dr Bader:

Thank you for your letter. The **Genesis Commentary** was reprinted in German by KTAV Publishing, 900 Jefferson Street, Box: 6249, Hoboken, NJ 07030-7205, (201-963-9524). I do not know the cost of the book and I presume that copies remain. This reprinting was done four or five years ago.

I, of course, appreciate your statement about the Bader-Klitsner Foundation now being principally interested in Israeli projects. In any case, we are only talking about a relatively small sum. The contemplated symposium on Benno Jacob may very well fit into that as it will probably be held in Jerusalem. In any case, I will write to you more about that later. I am certain that whether you support it or not, you will continue to be interested in Benno Jacob and whatever can be done to make his work better known in Israel, in North America, and in Europe.

Let me take this opportunity to wish you well for the New Year. I hope it will be a good year for you and those dear to you. With kindest regards.

Sincerely,


Walter Jacob

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Dr. Alfred R. Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

August 5, 1993

Rabbi Walter Jacob
Rodef Shalom Temple
Fifth and Morewood Avenues
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Rabbi Jacob:

Please forgive the long delay in my thanking you for your most interesting letter of May 19th. Isabel and I have been in Europe until a few days ago, and I am just catching up with our mail.

I am most interested in knowing that your grandfather's **Genesis Commentary** is available in a photo-reproduction printed by KTAV some years ago. I know of a number of scholars, both Jewish and non-Jewish, who know German and would be most interested in acquiring this work. Please send me the details of where it can be ordered, at what price.

In the last few years, the Bader-Klitsner Foundation has moved more and more towards supporting students in Israel, and I hope that you will understand.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,



W. Jacob
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DR. WALTER JACOB
RABBI
RODEF SHALOM TEMPLE
FIFTH AND MOREWOOD AVENUES
PITTSBURGH, PA. 15213
412-621-6566 FAX: 412-621-5475

19 May 1993

Dr Alfred Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee WI 55211

Dear Dr Bader:

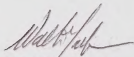
Thank you so much for your letter and let me react to your suggestion about the **Genesis**. The **Genesis Commentary** is available in a photo-reproduction which KTAV printed a few years ago. However, this, of course, is only the German text and that means it can reach a very limited audience, especially since few of the younger generation either here or in Israel are capable of reading German. I am interested in making this book available in English or in Hebrew and would be most pleased if your foundation would provide \$5,000 toward that publication.

I realize that such an effort will take a few years, but I have begun to work in this direction and have no doubt that it can be done as it was done with the **Exodus Commentary**.

Let me interest you in another possible project. It is also necessary to make the Biblical works of Benno Jacob more widely known and I intend to do that through a symposium in 1995 which will be held either in New York or in Jerusalem. Some outstanding scholars who are interested in my late grandfather's Biblical scholarship will participate and the proceedings will then be published. As this would involve a fairly range of individuals - Orthodox, Conservative, Reform as well as university professors, it would certainly serving the purpose of making an awareness which does not now exists. Your support for this effort would be equally appreciated.

I am looking forward to hearing from you. With best wishes and kindest regards in which, of course, my Brother-in-Law, Eli, joins me.

Sincerely,


Walter Jacob

/bb

Dr. Alfred Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

April 5, 1993

Rabbi Walter Jacob
President
Central Conference of American Rabbis
4905 - 5th Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213

Dear Rabbi Jacob:

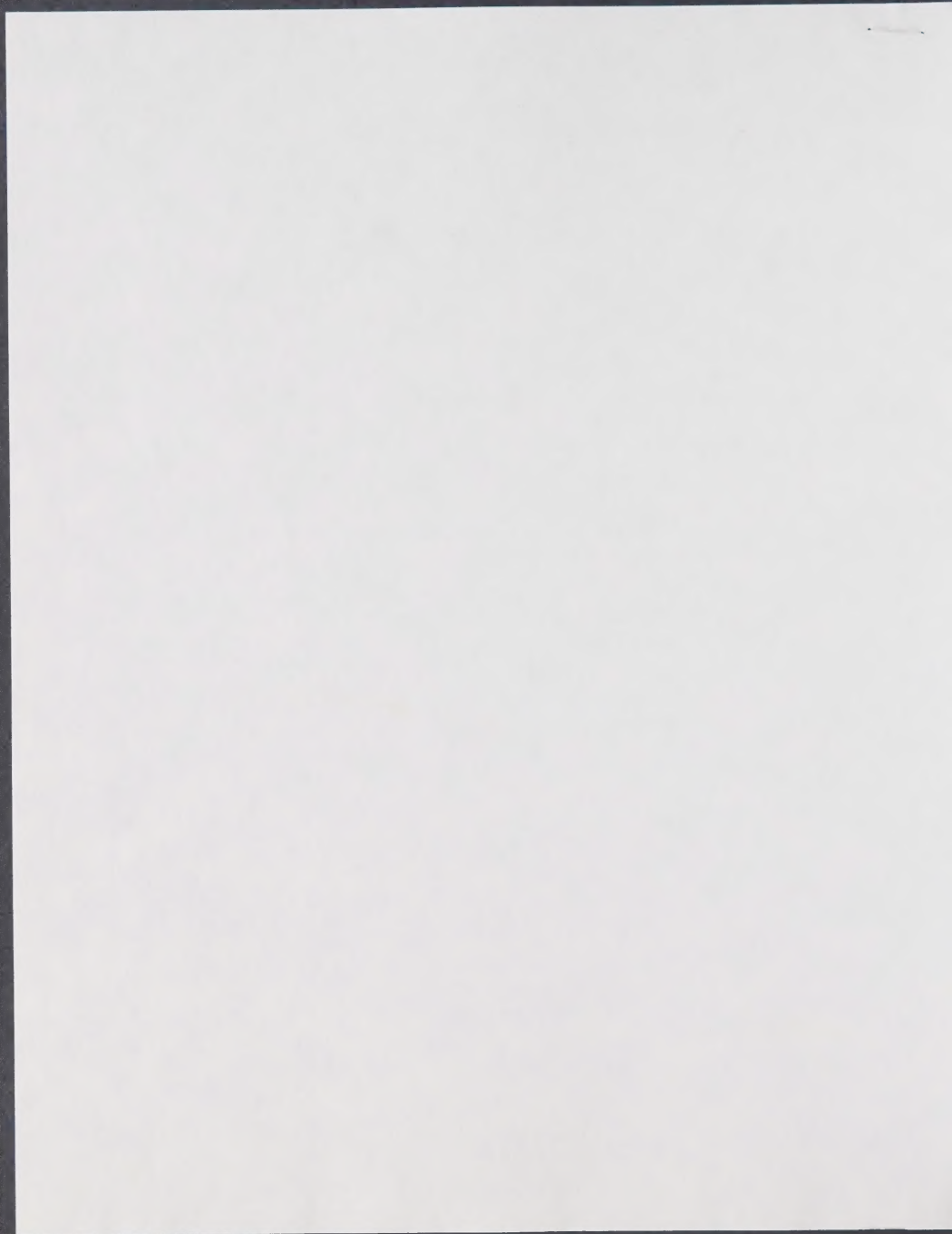
Thank you so much for your gracious letter of March 31. I very much look forward to the two copies of **EXODUS**.

Is there any way that the German text of **GENESIS** could be reproduced exactly, photomechanically and made available? I remember Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel telling me many years ago that there is no modern Jewish text that has helped so many so much, and that has also been plagiarized so much.

If such a reproduction were possible, our foundation would also be happy to contribute \$5000.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,



RABBI WALTER JACOB
PRESIDENT
CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS
4905 5TH AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA 15213
412-621-6566 • FAX 412-621-5475

31 March 1993

Dr Alfred Bader
2961 North Shepard Avenue
Milwaukee WI 53211

Dear Dr Bader:

Thank you for your note and for the impressive booklet on your families charitable endeavors. Your son and all those associated with him certainly continue to do a lot in Milwaukee, and I am sure that this is very much appreciated by the entire community.

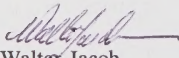
It is a pleasure to send you two additional copies of the **Exodus**. They will go out this week and should arrive promptly.

As soon as I am out of this office of the national presidency, which has kept me traveling almost constantly, I will begin working on the remaining unpublished essays of my grandfather's *Shema* as well as the short segments of Vayikra on which he had worked out a commentary. All this, of course, will take a little while.

I understand from my brother-in-law, Eli Loewenthal, that all is going well with you and that you are continuing your various efforts with your customary vigor. May those blessings also go on into the future.

With thanks once more for all that you have done for the **Exodus Commentary** and kindest regards.

Sincerely,


Walter Jacob

/bb

