



Seeing in the Time of Corona



Every Friday night, I make my way to Temple at about 5:45 p.m. I meet Cantor Hutchings briefly and we walk into the Temple to prepare for our 7:00 p.m. web stream for Shabbat Services. This past Friday night, just as we were about ready to enter into the side door, I noticed a pattern on the wall off to my right, just above the ground. At first glance it could have been nothing at all. But I saw a different pattern.

Take a look at the photo of what we saw. ***What do you see?***

Nothing? Random shadows of light and darkness? When I stopped to look, I saw the Torah scroll!

I was stunned. And excited. I told Cantor that we had to take a photo of this mini-miracle in the making. Some may laugh and put it in the mix of finding a carving of Moses in a potato chip bag or a rock formation that reminds us of Uncle Fred's profile. But look at this photo again...am I crazy or do you see what I see?

Psychologists developed the Rorschach test in which people are shown inkblots and asked to share what they see.

Perhaps living in the time of Corona has forced all of us to look a little harder to notice things that may have gone unnoticed before; to see life in ways that exist beyond our normal sight, using our other senses as well.

For many we have seen sadness and felt anxiety and worried about the future. But for others, and I would argue, within each of us, there is the ability to see the world through more optimistic eyes. Where some see a disaster, others see an opportunity to help. Where some see something ugly, another sees the potential for beauty. Where some see random reflections as, well random reflections; I saw a Torah scroll.

Perhaps, in that moment, I realized, that one way to make my way through Covid is to see the world with different eyes and a more hopeful heart. And perhaps, because I rely so much upon my faith, I would add that for me it helps to see the world through eyes of faith. My "Jewish eyes" saw beauty in this ethereal shadow of holiness; my own personal burning bush that put forth light that drew me closer to God.

And to think in my hurry I almost walked by without seeing a thing, leaving behind a miracle unnoticed and undiscovered. To think...