

ARTSCROLL UPDATE

Rabbi Nosson Scherman talks about The Milstein Edition of the Later Prophets: Yechezkel/Ezekiel

We spoke to **Rabbi Nosson Scherman**, General Editor of ArtScroll, head of the team of scholars who created the brilliant translation and commentary of the newly published **Milstein Edition Yechezkel/Ezekiel**.

Q: Can you tell us a little about the Milstein Edition Yechezkel?

RNS: This is the fourth and final volume in the **Milstein Edition Later Prophets**. In addition to the ArtScroll translation, a new commentary, and an Overview, it includes the newly typeset commentaries of *Rashi*, *Radak*, and *Metzudos*. We are now going on to *Kesuvim* in the same format.

Q: What are some other themes of the sefer, and how do they resonate with us today?

RNS: The Book begins with *Maaseh HaMerkavah*, when Yechezkel was shown how the angels praise Hashem, a vision that before then had been shown only to Yeshayahu. That proved that Hashem was still with Klal Yisrael, even in *galus*. The *sefer* then describes the terrible sins that were causing the destruction. This is the very important lesson for all time: Jewish suffering is caused by sin; our enemies are merely the tool, not the cause. In the end, Yechezkel promises, the tormenters of Israel will

Hashem was still with Klal Yisrael, even in galus.

Q: This volume is being released in the month of Av. Can you share with readers something of Yechezkel's vision of the Third Beis HaMikdash?

RNS: Yechezkel prophesied in Babylonia. He spoke to the 10,000 Jews who had been exiled before the *Churban* and continued to prophesy after the destruction. We can only imagine how despondent the people must have been. Seen from that perspective, the final nine chapters are electrifying. At the very same time that Israel was being plunged into exile, in those chapters Hashem detailed the glorious future Redemption and third Beis HaMikdash.

themselves be destroyed, and the Jewish people will be revived and reborn. The cataclysmic War of Gog and Magog, when nations will unite against us, will end with their destruction. All of these themes should resonate with us today.

Q: What were some of the challenges of translating Sefer Yechezkel?

RNS: The language is beautiful but complex and difficult, and it has many shades of meaning. The translation must be faithful to the text but at the same time be as clear as possible. The commentary is necessary to explain and elaborate on the text, since Chazal and the commentators find so much meaning in the words that no translation can ever encompass.

Prominent Educational Champions Honored At Shema Kolainu Legislative Breakfast

SARA NUTA, MICHELLE SABBAGH, JONATHAN SHABSHAIKHES

With esteemed dignitaries, communal leaders and artwork created by children presented as awards, the Annual Shema Kolainu Legislative Breakfast 2015 was another wonderful success. Speakers from all over New York City delivered inspiring addresses pledging their support for the special-needs community.

An elated Dr. Joshua Weinstein, founder and president of Shema Kolainu - Hear Our Voices, a school and center for children with autism, delivered opening remarks.

He announced, "Shema Kolainu has grown from a local institution to a global one ... The mission of Shema Kolainu is to allow children with autism to enjoy a better life and a better future ... We have seen such a tremendous number of success stories from the kids."

The breakfast was co-chaired by Mr. Abe Biderman, president of Met Council on Jewish Poverty and Mr. Abe Eisner, chairman of HASC Center. Mr. Menachem Lubinsky and Mr. Kalman Yeger were the masters of ceremony and the event featured a wide array of elected officials and community activists from across New York.

Shema Kolainu proudly honored Dr. Merryl H. Tisch, chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents, NYC Councilmember Andrew Cohen, and Mr. Zelig Friedman of The Tantzlers.

Dr. Joshua Weinstein and Mr. Abe Biderman presented the award to Dr. Merryl H. Tisch, who was honored for her commitment to children with autism.

Dr. Weinstein described Dr. Tisch as a devoted, passionate leader. "It's an honor for Shema Kolainu to have someone who understands education, who understands children, but more so understands children with disabilities and feels for their rights to become who they are and who they can be," said Dr. Weinstein.

NYC Schools Chancellor Carmen Farina celebrated Dr. Tisch's profound dedication to serving disabled children.



Photo Credit:

L-R: Ezra Friedlander, NYS Senator Simcha Felder, Dr. Joshua Weinstein, Zelig Friedman, Peter Rebenwurz, Menachem Lubinsky, Milton Weinstock, Abe Eisner and NYC Councilman David Greenfield.

"Her interest above all is children with special needs," said Ms. Farina, who previously worked alongside Dr. Tisch.

Upon receiving this award, Dr. Tisch discussed the frustration, anxiety, and uncertainty endured by parents of special-needs children. She said, "We cannot fix what G-d has done, we must accept it. But what we can do is stand up to help every family and every child in these most challenging circumstances." She closed with the Shema Kolainu blessing in Hebrew and explained how those words resonate with her daily.

NYC Councilmember Andrew Cohen, chair of the Council's Mental Health Committee, received the Appreciation Award presented by Councilmember David Greenfield. "Andrew Cohen single-handedly saved millions of dollars for mental health services" said Mr. Greenfield.

Councilman Cohen received this award in recognition of his leadership, ensuring that the Council continues to allocate funding for the Autism Awareness Initiative, as well as his tireless efforts to ensure that New Yorkers living with disabilities continue to be represented and guaranteed equal rights. Councilman Cohen said he was "very touched" by receiving this distinction.

Traditionally, the annual breakfast features a community-based organization and this year was no different. Mr. Peter Rebenwurz, chairman of the board of Shema Kolainu, presented this honor to Mr. Zelig Friedman, founder of The Tantzlers.

The Tantzlers is a group of

volunteers of over 150 men and 50 women whose purpose is to bring joy, strength, hope and a feeling of being loved to all people with special needs.

A prominent board member, Mr. Milton Weinstock, introduced NYC Public Advocate Letitia James. She highlighted the esteemed work that Shema Kolainu does and how it "allows the children to feel the sunshine."

Councilmember Mark Levine commended Shema Kolainu for advancing the notion "that every child is precious, every life has dignity, every young person can learn and grow if they are given the love and care and the support that they need."

Mrs. Tali Farhadian Weinstein, an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of NY, delivered warm greetings, and emphasized the importance of a quality education for all types of children.

Assemblyman David Weprin also stated his support for Shema Kolainu and congratulated Dr. Tisch. Other prominent elected officials in the audience included NYS Senator Simcha Felder and Assemblyman Steven Cymbrowitz.

An atmosphere of warmth and collaboration permeated the hall. The breakfast was a true success and stood as testimony to the spirit of keeping autism awareness and the importance of education of autistic children alive.

For more information please contact Ezra Friedlander at Ezra@TheFriedlanderGroup.com or 212-233-5555 x 101.

בס"ד

BORO PARK - MANHATTAN

זרע יצחק באטעם

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<p>FROM BORO PARK</p> <p><u>Monday - Friday</u></p> <p>7:58 Exp. to B&H Only 8:00 Local 8:05 Exp. to B&H Only 8:50 Exp. [not on Fri] A</p> <p><u>Sunday</u></p> <p>9:05</p> <p>Bus Route Starting at 49th St Corner 18th Ave Down to Ft. Hamilton Pkwy</p> <p>Stops in Manhattan From Wall St. up to 47th St</p> <p>A Goes on West Side until 34th St. to 8th Ave to 38th St. To 6th Ave</p> <p>B Goes on West Side until 24th St. to 6th Ave</p>	<p>FROM MANHATTAN</p> <p><u>Monday - Thursday</u></p> <p>6:00 Express D 6:05 6:10 From 9th Ave & 6:15 34th St. Only 7:20</p> <p><u>Friday Express</u></p> <p>E.S Time 12:55 PM D.L.S. Time 1:55 PM</p> <p><u>Sunday</u></p> <p>6:15 from B&H only</p> <p>Bus Route Starting at 47th St Cor 5th Ave.</p> <p>C Goes Downtown on 5th Ave till 8th St. then down Broadway</p> <p>D Goes on 5th Ave till 34th St then to 9th Ave then to West Side</p> <p>E 2nd stop 33rd St & 9th Ave then to West Side</p>
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