



Gary A. Rendsburg

Upcoming Lecture

“Maimonides and His Manuscripts”

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

12:00 noon (EST) / 9:00 a.m. (PST)

7:00 p.m. (Israel)

Sponsored by Jewish Historical Seminars

via Zoom

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Dear Friends,

Please join us for the upcoming lecture on the fascinating topic of “Maimonides and His Manuscripts” announced above, with further details here:

Moses Maimonides (1135–1204) is not only the greatest luminary in the Jewish scholarly tradition, he is the single major figure for whom we have the most autograph manuscripts.

Most remarkably, his *Commentary on the Mishna* is preserved in a copy written by the author himself! Moreover, the manuscript includes diagrams of the Temple, the Menorah, and other objects, also created by the author. The oldest manuscript of Maimonides’s *Mishneh Torah* (Code of Jewish Law) also was produced in the author’s lifetime, though this time by a professional scribe, to which the great scholar affixed his signature, affirming the scribe’s work as a true copy.

And then there is the *Moreh Nebukhim* (Guide for the Perplexed), preserved in a beautifully illuminated manuscript produced in Barcelona in 1348, though once again we are able to trace the manuscript tradition back to the author, in light of the draft pages which emerged from the Cairo Geniza. The result is a stunning narrative, as we return to the very days of the great scholar in 12th-century Cairo, in order to observe the mind of Maimonides at work.

Maimonides and His Manuscripts

Gary A. Rendsburg

Blanche and Irving Laurie
Chair in Jewish History

Rutgers University

December 2023

Jewish Historical Seminars



Registration details here, from Debbie Zuberi (Jerusalem), director of Jewish Historical Seminars:

* In order to register for the lecture, one first needs to pay USD \$12 via [PayPal.me/JHSeminars](https://www.paypal.com/US/jhs-seminars).

** **PLEASE NOTE:** If you are not available to watch the live session of the lecture, there is the option to receive the **recording** of the lecture instead – though once again the same registration procedure is to be followed, with the same payment of USD \$12.00 via [PayPal.me/JHSeminars](https://www.paypal.com/US/jhs-seminars).

Thank you, Debbie Zuberi

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Of related interest: for those of you in the New York area, note the current exhibition, “**The Golden Path: Maimonides across Eight Centuries**,” at the Center for Jewish History, 15 West 16th Street, New York, N.Y., 10011.

Many of the manuscripts that I will discuss are on display there, including the aforementioned Guide for the Perplexed manuscript, on loan from the Royal Library of Denmark (Copenhagen).

<https://www.cjh.org/visit/exhibit-info/golden-path>

CENTER FOR JEWISH HISTORY

THE GOLDEN PATH: MAIMONIDES ACROSS EIGHT CENTURIES featuring Highlights from the Hartman Family Collection of Manuscripts and Rare Books





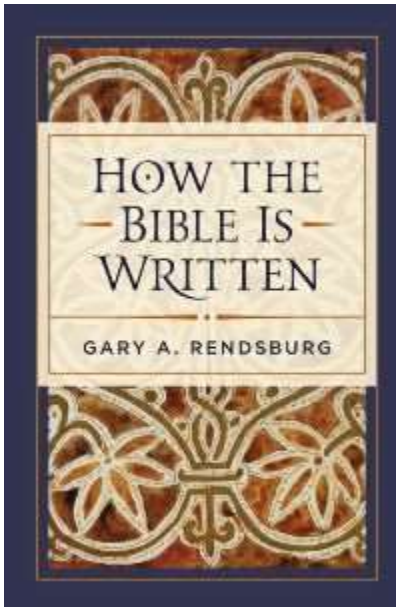
GARY'S CORNER



Gary's Corner will return with our next announcement.

[Click here to contact Gary A. Rendsburg](#)

[Click here to contact Melissa A. Rendsburg, Managing Director](#)



MOST RECENT BOOK

(April 2019)

How the Bible Is Written

(Hendrickson)

Gary A. Rendsburg Lecture Series

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