

## Mandelbaum Study Sessions Rabbis Apple & Freedman

Sunday, 11 December, 10.30am – 1pm  
Monday, 12 December, 6.30pm - 9pm

### **BACK FROM THE BORDERLINE - THE STORY OF JEWS WHO CAME BACK** *Rabbi Raymond Apple AO RFD*

“Deep in his heart he began to feel the need of being a Jew”. Theodor Herzl wrote this in his essay, “The Menorah”. Many people felt that need and returned to Jewish identity, which (Herzl’s words again) “became so powerful that it crystallised from vague emotions into a definite idea”. This programme traces the return of some leading “reversioners”. It also asks whether Judaism itself has been true to its own principles, and it looks at the phenomenon of Jews who abandon belief and become secular.

### **WHY JUDAISM? THE ORIGINS OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE AND A PROLOGUE TO MOSAIC THEOLOGY** *Rabbi David Freedman*

The purpose of Bible. Why Judaism?

The birth of man – faith and communication.

The origin of the alphabet, early writing and literature.

Ancient civilisations: Ugarit, Egypt, and Mesopotamia.

Ancient Myth – Gilgamesh v The Creation Epic;

Ugaritic v The Psalms.

Paganism in pre-Israelite Canaan – The Ugaritic

Pantheon and Baal worship.

**Both days include sessions with Rabbi Apple  
and with Rabbi Freedman.**

**\$20 per day. No need to book in advance.**

**At Mandelbaum House**

**385 Abercrombie Street Darlington 2008**

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After holding two pulpits in Britain, Rabbi Raymond Apple, AO RFD was senior rabbi of the Great Synagogue, Sydney, for 32 years and one of Australia’s best known religious leaders.

He lectured at Sydney and NSW Universities and was senior rabbi to the Australian Defence Force and judge/registrar of the Sydney Beth

Din as well as president of the Orthodox Rabbinate of Australia and New Zealand and president of the Australian Jewish Historical Society. He is Past Deputy Grand Master of Freemasonry in NSW and ACT.

He is a foundation trustee of Mandelbaum House and with Professor Alan Crown was Master of the College. He has written several books and his weekly “OzTorah” has a global circulation.

In retirement he is engaged in research, writing and teaching. He lives in Jerusalem with his wife Marian; they have 20 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.



Rabbi Freedman is currently the Associate Rabbi of The Central Synagogue, Bondi. He began his rabbinic career in London in 1973, before taking a position on Sydney’s upper north shore in 1988.

He lectures at Sydney University as part of The Jewish Civilisation, Thought and Culture Program, and also at UNSW in Jewish Law.

As a Chief Examiner and Senior Marker he has been involved over many years with the NSW Board of Studies, and is also a regular contributor to ABC radio on religious affairs.