



## Rabbi Micah Greenstein Featured Speaker at “Temple Israel University” November 19

How do the concepts of law and love exist together in organized religion? Are they mutually exclusive ideals?

“There is a popular misconception in the synagogue and in the world, that Christianity is exclusively a religion of love without deed while Judaism concerns itself almost entirely with the strictures of law,” Rabbi Micah Greenstein, Temple Israel’s Senior Rabbi, explains.

That is a mistake.

Rabbi Greenstein emphasizes, “To say that Judaism is all law and no love or that Christianity is all love and no law or deed is unfair and untrue to both faiths.”

At the Temple Israel University event at Temple on Thursday, November 19, at 7:30 pm, Rabbi Greenstein will explain this in his presentation entitled *Law and Love: The Yin and Yang of Judaism*.

“In this lecture and discussion, I will elucidate a Jewish perspective on law and four types of love in early Jewish literature. I will comment on the nexus of law and love in Jewish liturgy and show how Halacha (law) and Ahavah (love) meet in the Berit (Eternal Covenant) between God and the Jewish people.”

“What many Jews fail to understand is that love is the generator of Jewish faith – we need to share that Jewish inheritance and gift to understand our religious heritage and ourselves better.”

Rabbi Micah Greenstein has served Temple Israel since 1991, first as Assistant, then Associate, becoming Senior Rabbi in 2000. Rabbi Greenstein has been named by *Memphis Magazine* as one of the city’s most significant leaders. He was selected to be the principal speaker for the State of Tennessee at the Washington National Cathedral in 2005 and currently chairs the Israel Committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Rabbi Greenstein is a two-time President of the Memphis Ministers Association, is on the Executive Board of the National Civil Rights Museum, and is past-President of the Southwest Association of Reform Rabbis, covering six states.

A graduate of Cornell University and Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, he studied and was ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati. He received his Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters at the Los Angeles Campus of HUC-JIR.

Rabbi Greenstein and his wife, Sheril, have three children.

Temple Israel is located at 1376 E. Massey Road and on the web at [www.timemphis.org](http://www.timemphis.org).

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