

Gary A. Rendsburg

Upcoming Lectures
March 2022

Sunday, March 6, 2022

Dear Friends,

We have returned from our ten days in Oxford, where Gary delivered a prestigious lecture and where we conducted research into Hebrew manuscripts held by the Bodleian Library.

This was our first time on an airplane in two years and our first international travel in 2.5 years – and we are pleased to report that all went well, including our negative COVID tests required for re-entry into the U.S.

Gary has several talks upcoming in March, though we lead with the recording of the Oxford lecture, made available by our hosts in England.

"The Significance of Ugaritic for the Study of the Bible"

Sixth Annual Edward Ullendorff Memorial Lecture

Tuesday, 15 February 2022

6:00 p.m. (GMT)

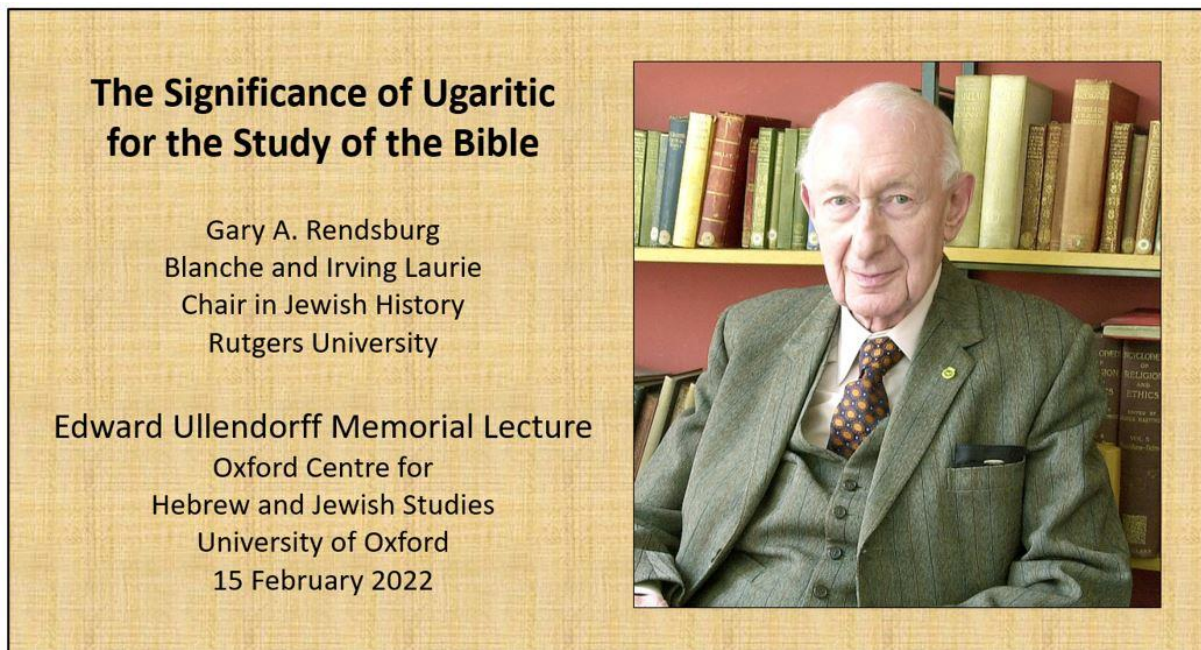
Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies (OCHJS)

University of Oxford (Oxford, England)

Recording available at the OCHJS Vimeo

page: <https://vimeo.com/user126540181>

(Scroll down towards the bottom)



"The Dead Sea Scrolls: Discovery and Decipherment"

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

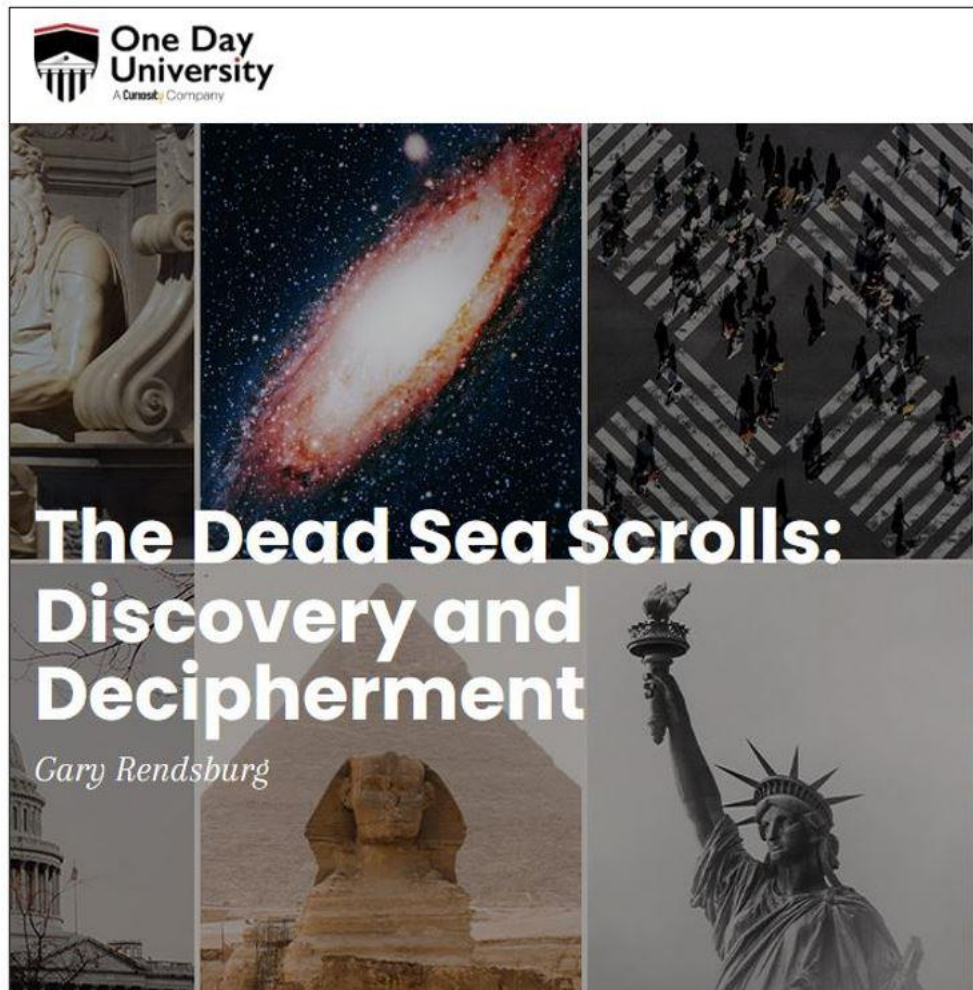
4:00 p.m. (EST)

One Day University

<https://www.onedayu.com/videos/the-dead-sea-scrolls-discovery-and-decipherment-2/>

An encore performance of Gary's talk on the Dead Sea Scrolls for One Day University: first delivered live on April 8, 2021, and now back by popular demand (apparently).

Gary will be present for the live Q&A, following the lecture, per the regular One Day University format.



"From Cordoba to Cardamon: The World of Cairo Geniza"

March 15, 2022

6:00 p.m. (EDT)


Flint Institute of Arts (Flint, Michigan)

The Sheppy Dog Fund Lectures

in-person (!!!)

<https://flintarts.org/events/lectures>

Description: During the 1890s, the contents of the Cairo Geniza, the storeroom of the Ben Ezra Synagogue build ca. 900 in Fustat (Old Cairo), came to the attention of scholars in England and elsewhere. The discoveries constituted nothing less than a revolution in the study of the Middle Ages. In the end, 300,000 documents (mostly in Hebrew, but in other languages as well) emerged from the dusty attic space revealing every aspect of medieval Jewish life, from the sacred to the mundane.



FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Exhibitions & Events

Lectures & Discussions

Free Lectures

The Sheppy Dog Fund Lectures


The Sheppy Dog Fund Lecture has been established to address the topics of art, religion, and history, and is funded annually by The Sheppy Dog Fund, Dr. Alan Klein, Advisor.

From Cordoba to Cardamon: The World of the Cairo Geniza


March 15 • 6:00p
FIA Theater

Dr. Gary Rendsburg

During the 1890s, the contents of the Cairo Geniza, the storeroom of the Ben Ezra Synagogue build ca. 900 in Fustat (Old Cairo), came to the attention of scholars in England and elsewhere. The discoveries constituted nothing less than a revolution in the study of the Middle Ages. In the end, 300,000 documents (mostly in Hebrew, but in other languages as well) emerged from the dusty attic space revealing every aspect of medieval Jewish life, from the sacred to the mundane.



Dr. Gary A. Rendsburg serves as the Blanche and Irving Laurie Professor of Jewish History in the Department of Jewish Studies at Rutgers University.



Top image: Ben Sira MS B III Rector (T-S 16.312), containing Ben Sira 30:11-24. Used with kind permission of the Syndics of Cambridge University.

“An Armchair Tour of Oxford and Cambridge”

Smithsonian Associates

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

6:30 – 8:30 p.m. (EDT)

Smithsonian Associates (Washington, D.C.)

<https://smithsonianassociates.org/ticketing/tickets/armchair-tour-of-oxford-and-cambridge>

Description: The two great academic centers of England – Oxford and Cambridge – are steeped in history reaching back to the 12th and 13th centuries. The dozens of constituent colleges at both universities each have

their own history, with so many famous people having studied and taught at both institutions: For the moment, just consider Charles Darwin at Cambridge and J.R.R. Tolkien at Oxford – not to mention royals, prime ministers, Nobel Prize winners, and so many more.

The college libraries allow one to step back into the Middle Ages; the quads, chapels, and gardens remain places of serene beauty; the River Thames and the River Cam, respectively, allow for additional natural beauty; and the preservation of so much historical and cultural material, including great collections of medieval manuscripts, continues to attract scholars to the two cities.

Scholar and historian Gary Rendsburg has lived and has conducted academic research in both cities. In this richly illustrated lecture, he brings the verve and culture of these great university towns to life, sharing history flavored with a pleasant dose of Anglophilia.

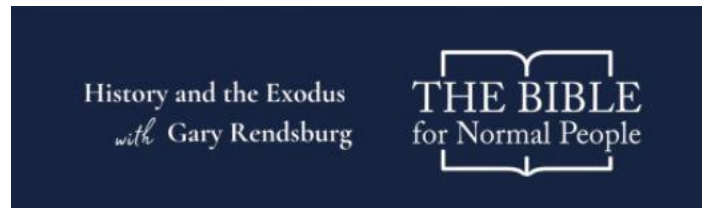
An Armchair Tour of Oxford and Cambridge



Gary A. Rendsburg, Rutgers University
Blanche and Irving Laurie Chair of Jewish History
Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 6:30 p.m. EDT

SMITHSONIAN ASSOCIATES
ENTERTAINING. INFORMATIVE. ECLECTIC. INSIGHTFUL.

Bonus Item



The Bible for Normal People podcast – “History and the Exodus”
posted on February 28, 2022 (c. 45 mins)

<https://peteenns.com/episode-195-gary-rendsburg-history-and-the-exodus/>

Description: How does the Bible interact with history? In this episode of *The Bible for Normal People*, Gary Rendsburg joins Pete Enns and Jared Byas to discuss how history, epic, and theology are interwoven to create the biblical narrative.

Special Study Tour **“England as the Custodian of the Jewish Past”** **(August 8-19, 2022)**



We continue to receive bookings for the special study tour of Oxford, Cambridge, and London, with access to the Hebrew manuscript collections at the Bodleian Library (Oxford) and the Cambridge University Library (C.U.L.) in August 2022 – but slots are still available.

The tour is brought to you by Sababa Travel (Westfield, N.J.), with itinerary, pricing, and registration available

here: <https://traveljoy.com/bookings/9vCkvyWtCSaUqCxAswXLyyDr>

See here for the pdf file with all relevant information:

<https://jewishstudies.rutgers.edu/docman/rendsburg/920-england-as-the-custodian-of-the-jewish-past-august-2022-tour-itinerary-2>

And see here for the “flipbook” version:

<https://www.flipsnack.com/garyarendsburglectureseries/england-as-the-custodian-jewish-past-updated-on-february-3.html>

Naturally, feel free to be in touch with us with any questions, and also feel free to share with family, friends, interested parties, et al.



GARY'S CORNER



Follow-up to the England tour announcement above:

As indicated above, we spent ten days in Oxford during February, including many delightful hours spread over several days inspecting medieval Hebrew manuscripts held at the Bodleian Library. I may have found a new favorite:

MS Canonici Or. 89 – Isaiah di Trani, Legal Decisions, written by the scribe Paola bat Avraham (Rome, 1293).

The composition lies within the domain of specialists of Jewish law, of which I am not one – but I am drawn to this manuscript because of its absolute beauty, written meticulously by a *female* scribe, who was taught the scribal arts by her father.

FYI: the majority of the Hebrew manuscripts in the Bodleian Library are available in digital format:

<http://bav.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/digitized-items-hebrew-manuscripts> – but there is nothing like holding the manuscripts in one's hands (see the photo below), to gain a sense of the tactile and at times even the olfactory.

All this and more during the course of our days together on the England tour!



Reading Bodleian MS Canonici Or. 89 – Isaiah di Trani, Legal Decisions,
written by the scribe Paola bat Avraham (Rome, 1293).

[image © Melissa A. Rendsburg]

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Gary A. Rendsburg Lecture Series

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<https://jewishstudies.rutgers.edu/people/core-faculty/gary-a-rendsborg>