

NEVE SHALOM, Metuchen, NJ
**JEWISH THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY**
SPEAKER SERIES



**Sunday, Feb. 21
10 am**

Dr. David Marcus



**Did the Exodus from
Egypt Really Happen?**

David Marcus is professor of Bible at The Jewish Theological Seminary, teaching courses in Bible and ancient languages, including Babylonian Aramaic and biblical Hebrew. Dr. Marcus' area of expertise is the Bible and the ancient Near East. He is the author of numerous scholarly articles and two language manuals, one on Akkadian, the ancient language of Mesopotamia, and the other on the Aramaic of the Babylonian Talmud. His book *Jephthah and His Vow* challenges the widespread opinion that Jephthah put his daughter to death, and his book *From Balaam to Jonah: Anti-prophetic Satire in the Hebrew Bible* explores the use of satire in the Hebrew Bible.

His most recent book is a critical edition of *Ezra–Nehemiah* (2006) for the new *Biblia Hebraica Quinta* series being published in Stuttgart by the German Bible Society. Dr. Marcus is one of only three American and four Jewish scholars involved with this project, and his volume constitutes a milestone in the history of the *Biblia Hebraica* (the critical Bible used by most students and scholars of the Hebrew Bible) because it represents the first time that a Jewish scholar has authored one of the books of the Bible under its auspices. His monograph on "Doublet Catchwords in the Leningrad Codex" has just been published online in *TC: A Journal of Biblical Textual Criticism* and is available in [PDF format](#). Dr. Marcus is currently working on a translation and commentary on the sage Ahiqar for the new twenty-volume series on *Wisdom of the Ancient World* to be published by Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen.

In addition to serving on the faculty at JTS and as chair of the Bible Department for thirteen years, Dr. Marcus has taught at Columbia University and has been a visiting professor at Yale University, Union Theological Seminary, and Hebrew Union College. Dr. Marcus was born and educated in Dublin, Ireland. He did his undergraduate work at Trinity College in Dublin and Cambridge University in England. He then came to the United States and pursued graduate studies at Dropsie College in Philadelphia and at Columbia University in New York. He subsequently received his PhD from Columbia in the Department of Middle East Languages and Cultures, and Judaic Studies—*summa cum laude*, with distinction in both majors—from Yale University.

Course fee (for the three Sunday morning lectures) \$ 5 per lecture

**If you paid for the Fall or Spring semesters or are a sponsor of our
Scholar in Residence then you do not owe any additional fees.**

**This program is partially sponsored by the Jewish Theological Seminary and Neve Shalom Men's Club.
Coffee will be served at 9:40am**

Please register by email can2r11@aol.com or phone 732-548-2238 x 14

Future Lecture:

April 11, 2010 Shuly Schwartz will speak about Conservative Judaism of the Past