

Boker Or or Boker Tov  
Start your DayCornerstone 2021  
Shalom Orzach

What would be the first thing you would make if you were creating the world? Our creation story begins with Light- Or - Bereishit 1:3,4

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יְהִי אוֹר וַיְהִי־אוֹר:

God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים אֶת־הָאוֹר כִּי־טוֹב וַיַּבְדֵּל אֱלֹהִים בֵּין הָאוֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ:

God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness.

What really happened, what enabled light to shine? The sun and the moon had not been created yet! Might light also be optimism?

In Hebrew we used both Tov- Good, and Or- light to say good morning. What is the difference? What might both expressions have in common?

In the creation story the word Tov is used quite often to express God's satisfaction/ pleasure at what S/He created. The climax of the story pronounced in the closing verse of chapter 1 declares;

וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים אֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה וְהִנֵּה־טוֹב מְאֹד וַיְהִי־עֶרֶב וַיְהִי־בֹקֶר יוֹם הַשִּׁשִּׁי:

And God saw all that He had made, and found it very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Using these expressions Or or Tov conjure moments of creation. What a striking way to start our day! We are inviting one another to bring Light and Good into the world.

What Light and Good will you bring/create today?