



## RABBI BENJAMIN

Rabbi Benjamin Edidin Scolnic is an author who has been the spiritual leader at Temple Beth Sholom in Hamden, Connecticut, since 1983. Rabbi Scolnic served for seven years as Instructor and then Assistant Professor of Bible at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. He has taught at Yale University and the University of Connecticut as a Lecturer. He has also been a Special Educational Consultant to the Melton Research Center.

Dr. Scolnic was the Daniel Jeremy Silver Fellow in 1997-98 at Harvard University. He is the recipient of other fellowships and awards, including the Rabbi Jacob Agus Prize, presented to "the pulpit rabbi who best exemplifies the ideal of the rabbi-scholar." He was on the team of scholars and rabbis who wrote *Etz Hayyim*, the commentary for the new Humash now used in conservative synagogues.

Dr. Scolnic attended the Joint Program of Columbia University and the Teacher's Institute of Jewish Theological Seminary. He graduated from both programs in 1975, finishing Columbia Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude and with Honors in English. He also received an M.A. in English and Comparative Literature from Columbia in 1977 and his Ph.D. from Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Rabbi Scolnic was ordained in 1979 and served as Assistant Rabbi and Acting Rabbi at Temple Emanu-El of Englewood, N. J. for three years, until he left for a year in Israel on a fellowship.

He is the Biblical Consultant for the Northwest Sinai Archaeological Expedition, investigating the route of the Exodus in the Sinai Desert. He was the Editor of *Conservative Judaism* from 1993-2000. With Dr. James Hoffmeier, he is the co-author/editor of *Reclaiming the Exodus* (Oxford University Press, 2008), *An Archaeological Haggadah* (2009) and *The Venetian Haggadah* (2009).

Scolnic is the author of *Theme and Context in Biblical Lists* (1995), *Papponymy and Chronology* (1999), *Are You Talking to Me?* (2001), *Shoes for the Road* (2003), *Alcimus, Enemy of the Maccabees* (2004), *If the Egyptians Died in the Red Sea, Where are Pharaoh's Chariots? Exploring the Historical Dimension of the Bible* (2005), *Unfinished Business* (2006), *Conservative Judaism and the Faces of God's Words* (2006), *Thy Brother's Blood: The Maccabees and the Morality of Kinship* (2007) and *Of Destinies and Dynasties: The Rise and Fall of the Maccabees* (forthcoming) and over 70 articles and essays on the Bible, feminism, liturgy, Jewish education, the relationship between religion and the media, and the future of Conservative Judaism.

