

## ORTHODOX RABBIS ASK ZIONISM LINK

Urge Worshipers to Join  
Its Religious Branch

Five hundred Orthodox rabbis have issued a proclamation calling on Orthodox worshipers to join the Religious Zionists of America to help the organization in strengthening its religious institutions in Israel.

In their proclamation the rabbis observed that "religion has always occupied a supreme niche in the establishment, maintenance and upbuilding of Israel."

Details of the proclamation were outlined by the Rev. Dr. Mordecai Kirshblum, national president of the Religious Zionists, last Friday in the organization's headquarters at 80 Fifth Avenue.

Rabbi Kirshblum asserted that Zionism itself would be "a watered-down, meaningless and ineffectual concept without the influence of religious traditional and historic Jewish values" and that Religious Zionism "is absolutely indispensable to create those goals, ideals and practices which will sustain and nourish Israel."

"Religious Zionism," he said, "serves the essential purpose of forging, cementing and unifying the permanent links between American Jews and Israelis."

"Zionism and the progress of Israel are inextricably linked with the precepts of Biblical insights, Talmudic learning and religious consecration."

The rabbi mentioned his organization's efforts in establishing religious educational institutions in Israel and in supporting the all-day religious school system in the United States.

Dr. Kirshblum announced that the Religious Zionists had begun a membership campaign for 50,000 new members that would reach a climax on Nov. 13 at the group's national convention in Long Beach, L. I.

"By joining the Religious Zionists of America, religious Jews can give a spiritual, morally strong and elevated tenor to invigorate religious leadership in Israel," he said.

The membership campaign is being supported by the Rev. Dr. Joseph E. Soloveichik of Boston, a Talmudic scholar who is a leader of Orthodox Judaism.

Recently Rabbi Soloveichik, who is the ideological leader of the Religious Zionists and also of the Rabbinical Council of America, the largest Orthodox rabbinic group, called for a more intensified identification of American Orthodox Rabbis with the Religious Zionists.

"Such an identification," he said, "would be instrumental in consolidating the complex undertakings of the movement and would give more value and meaning to the ideology of this

religious force in American Jewish life."

Rabbi Soloveichik and Dr. Joseph Burg, Israeli Deputy Minister of Health, and Dr. Isaac Raphael, another Talmudic scholar, will speak at the Religious Zionists' convention.