

Introspection



It was cool in the darkened room. The mid-November wind came in comforting blasts through the partially opened window. I was sitting wrapped within the warmth and protection of my blanket, allowing my face alone to be exposed.

I had always enjoyed the excitement of learning, exploring ideas, and working with creative thought, and I had been living in Yeshiva for a year and some months now, attempting to draw closer to G-d and actualize my purpose in creation.

The initial focus of direction with which I had set out had gradually been all but lost in the monotonous tedium of each seceding day, and the joy which had once fueled my passion had disappeared.

There was an emptiness inside of me, a desire for something more. So I was sitting there that winter night examining my place in life, and thinking of where I thought I ought to be.



Searching

*I don't know how to express myself,
I don't know just where to start
The ink is sticking, my papers gone,
and I can't control my thoughts*

*I've found what I am looking for,
the answer to my wants
Yet I'm still set in un-surety,
swinging back and forth*

*I wish I knew just whom to be,
and what I'm striving for
Which choice to make, which path to take,
what it is G-d wants for me.*



Every Fiber Of My Being,
Every Essence Of My Plight,
Presents the Un-eroding Question,
As To Life.

Whenever Someone Out There Motions,
Or An Object Is In Flight,
Somewhere Deep Down Inside Of Me,
Darkness Turns To Light.

By The Countenance Of Innocence,
And As Sun Rays Fold From Sight,
My Heartbeat Sometimes Falts,
Bringing Me To Untold Heights.

וכשתבין סוד התנועה ותשכיל ענין אמתתה ורוחניותה ותדע כי היא מפלאי החכמה הא'להית

- חובות הלבבות שער הבחינה פרק ה

The way in which Hashem created the world was to set up dense smoke screens to pervade the human senses and establish a distorted reality. This reality allowed for



man to have freedom of choice and the ability to conquer and prevail over the world's challenges, thereby allowing him to attain otherwise unattainable spiritual heights.

There are on occasion various plateaus and mountain tops whose jagged edges jut above the endless sea of misleading fog. These visible pinpoints of reality are formed by basic, inescapable facts, which lie however deep or dormant inside of every person's soul. These facts if fanned and brought to life give us footholds and allow us to descend beneath and penetrate the veil cloaking existence. These visible snippets of land, if not for the confusion caused by the contradicting indications constantly being thrust upon ones senses, would be always present in ones thoughts and it would be impossible to doubt their validity.

If a person would allow himself to reach out and think rationally and emotionally, he would realize without any question that there is a G-d who created the concept of existence. There are many irrefutable reasons, if approached with pure logic and rationale, such as why and how would you exist if you weren't created with a purpose, and if you weren't created and didn't have a purpose what's the point of life, you might as well be dead, since anyway eventually you'll fade away into nothingness.

There is no logical basis or rationale as to why a person desires certain physical aspects of this world while he disdains others, just G-d imbued within him certain innate and unexplainable desires and dislikes to pose as a mask over what is truly desirable and undesirable. When a person passes on into the world of truth, this mask of falsehood is peeled away and the true set of values are revealed. At that point a person realizes how much he gave up, every instant in which he ran after the eluding mirage of false desires, instead of directing his focus and energy toward worthwhile and fulfilling pursuits.

An important realism for a person to keep in focus, is that the scale of ranking and success which is superficially observed in this world, is totally unaligned and oblivious toward the set of rankings in which G-d views his creations. This is due to the fact that we judge people by the level that they are presently on, while the true tale of a person's success is told by the progress he has made in lieu of the hardships and impediments that have been placed in his path. However even if we do take into

account the strides and accomplishments that a person has made, it is not feasible for us to know whether it was easier for him than his fellow man.

Based on the idea that people were created with different tests and challenges, and established in different environments facing different scenarios, it is impossible for you to determine whether or not a person will be held responsible for an action that he is doing. Therefore it is futile and purposeless to have any negative feelings against other people, since you should realize that they are just trying their best to cope with the world in which G-d placed them.

The concept of time as we assume it to be, is limited to our view of the physical world. In the spiritual world however, there is no set time factor. It is true that there are concepts of one thing preceding the next, but all spiritual actions remain eternal.

Part of the reason why Hashem introduced the concept of time into the physical world is since the physical world, unlike the spiritual world, is not everlasting. Therefore, in order for man to have the ability to accomplish and progress, the world must develop in stages as opposed to just being. This is because the world to come lasts forever and does not change its spiritual heights and it's as if no time passes, while the whole purpose of this world's creation, is to achieve and progress, and the only way to change from what you once were, is to cut off and separate your old spiritual self from your new one.

Knowing that this world in which we are presently in is in an entirely different realm in comparison to the world to come, and that our life in this world takes up an infinitesimal minuscule percentage of our life in the world to come, a person should make a concrete decision to use all his resources and work his whole life, sparing nothing, to serve his creator and thereby reap utopia forever.