

Nourishment for the Neshama

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Pesach 5772 From Slavery to Freedom

The greatest peace we can experience is the knowledge, the integrated knowledge, of Hashem's great lovingkindness. Without a doubt, if a person has doubt, it is highly recommended that pursuit of the knowledge of Hashem become a first priority. Do this teshuva on whatever basis will get you there, but do not stop seeking the knowledge of Hashem, for He is the Source of everything, including our very lives, livelihood, personalities, and relationships.

How does one approach searching for the knowledge of Hashem if a person has doubts? Or better, does a person choose to have doubts so as not to have to do the work of the pursuit of the knowledge of Hashem?

With our senses, the matter cannot be found. It is only through intellectual contemplation, a choice to relate with Hashem, to see ourselves in His eyes, applying His Torah to our moral values, and asking Him to assist us that our intellect is able to begin identifying His reality as true. True and good is Hashem, may His name be praised.

What a wonderful world we have, where He allows us to think that with our analytical mind we can comprehend and conquer! What an amazing creation is free willed coice! What a bracha is knowing with absolute certainty what to use free willed choice for - to sanctify His name, to be one with the Divine mind as revealed in Torah and with His thirteen attributes of mercy!

May we open our minds and discover the reality that what we think is secondary, our soul, is not only primary but the largest part of our existence! May we use our free will to saddle and tame the coverings over that reality - anything negative or "myspace" oriented is a covering only! May Hashem take us from the slavery of "taking for ourselves" to the freedom to redirect ourselves with love and devotion to sanctifying His name every moment of the day - including Hashem in our thoughts, relating with Him, asking for His siyata d'shmaya and guidance, for there is no greater joy or pleasure that a person can experience than even one second of pulling off the coverings that keep our intellect from the constant awareness that our souls love and recognize Hashem in this world, even while we block it with our doubts, Gd forbid.

Chag Kasher v'sameach