

## Nourishment for the Neshama

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#### Why Elul 5771 is different from all other Eluls

There is a Creator of the World. Everything we see, everything we are, everything we think and everything we feel except for one thing are completely within the Creator's control. The one thing that is in our control is whether or not we choose to fear and love the Creator.

Free will itself is a creation. We don't even have a choice about that. We have it. We are hardwired to have a sense of self, of self-determination, of success, of ownership, of respect and more.

Dr. Lieberman in the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation Tisha B'Av Program B explains that the million dollar question is where do we go to provide for ourselves our self-esteem? Do we go to the body that wants to feel good, the ego that wants to look good or the soul that truly wants to do what is good in the eyes of the Creator?

Anyone who chooses to doubt the existence of the Creator or doubts the Creator's omnipotence by default goes to finding their esteem in either how they look or in what feels good.

It must be understood that whether or not we choose to believe in the Creator does not change the moral rules by which His Creation is subject. Any decision to reject the morality established in the Torah, even to change it or modify it a hairsbreadth, is a choice a person can make to choose away from fear of the Creator, and there are consequences – we are judged. We may receive the judgment, such as financial problems, illness, loss of property, accidents, unhappy relationships and more, and continue wandering in the darkness of our free will – that is, to not wake up and realize that these are messages intended to awaken our souls to re-connect with the Creator. Or, we can open our minds to the possibility that there really is a Creator and that perhaps we might try to talk to Him and find out what He would like from us.

If this is the first time a person is ever hearing this idea, chances are kindness means making everyone physically happy and comfortable. Ask yourself a question – is that possible? Take a quick look around – people age and die! How can that be the ethical and moral definition of what is a good and right way to live?

Perhaps a person might say, yes but I am not spiritual. I don't believe in all that. I think the mind of man can create what is good and right. Ask yourself a question – is that possible? Look at all tragedies and killings and fighting and suffering because in the end, people resort to violence to assert what is good and right. If the mind of man can comprehend what is good and right, then there would be no need other than to sit down and talk to work things out, for there would be a meeting of the minds, a discovery of truth and an attachment to it.

The world we are in is showing us that there real evil in the world evil that is made stronger by the passionate insistence of good people that goodness and kindness means what man says it means.

There is absolute morality in this world by the Creator. We live completely within the mind and design of the Creator. He knows every thought, every emotion, every intention, every action and every outcome of each of these. And this is not the only world. We by our actions affect the upper worlds and how this world is managed. Global warming is a great metaphor for how our negativity is affecting us – all we have to do is wake up and comprehend that there is far more than just what is in front of our noses.

Every person is made in the image of the Divine. We have two types of moments every day. Moments where we bring positive energy to the world and moments that trigger pain within us by which we might slip and bring negative energy to the world. Each person is a nuclear reactor, a world within himself. With our free will we tell the Creator how we think the Creator should be handling matters.

It seems that we may be at the point where the Creator is letting us know that He is the landlord and that we have moved too far away. He is trying to get our attention. He is not corporeal. He is light, concealed so that a world appears. Yet He has exact precision – He sends an earthquake to rattle the east coast of the USA on the Hebrew anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of Av. He allows terror to strike Eilat where there are violations of the moral laws of modesty and He prevents rockets from detonating in a shul. His control is complete and exact. It is up to us to comprehend – maybe the Torah He sent us really is the way He wants us to choose to live?

So what will happen? Will we or won't we? We still have free choice. After the Moshiach comes, our free will won't be something to use to receive reward. It will be obvious that the Creator is in control and we will have lost the opportunity to use our free will for the purpose for which it was designed, to bring our souls closer to Hashem and earn eternal reward.

Pain is for atonement. Pleasure is to help us be productive in doing the Creator's will. We thank the Creator for both, for we have a positive mission as well as something we are here to fix. The pain atones for what we have to fix. The pleasure is permitted when we use what the Creator gives us to do His Will. Pleasure we take beyond that means that we have stepped out of a boundary and if so, we receive shepherding back toward the path. The Creator loves us, is very patient, very loving. He loves justice but is merciful.

Imagine if we bought a property. On that property we can do as we wish. Each property has an owner and ownership rights. What I do on my property can affect yours and visa versa. Some property owners might work together toward a joint venture, but when it comes to our souls, joint ventures even for a perceived greater- this - world - good that mutually hurt someone else are damage to each person. Every soul is personally responsible. Our trial is to stand before the beings we create with our energy, both positive and negative. There is no defense. We create these indeterminate beings and have to face them after 120 years.

But now, while we are alive, what we are creating is not just waiting for us – they are maintained by the Creator and allowed to operate as the Creator deems fitting for His purposes.

Earthquakes that shake 12 million people with not one person injured is a miracle. The Creator shook us – are we comatose? Are we going to wake up or will heaven forbid the next step be electroshock therapy?

What does the Creator tell us morally? Take a look at the Torah. He tells us very simply. Say this, don't say that, eat this, don't eat that, wear this, don't wear that, live as man and wife and procreate, don't succumb to sexual immorality, don't desecrate the name of the Creator – it is His list. It is His World.

It is up to the leaders of the world to comprehend that we live in the Creator's world and that He is watching and waiting for us to turn toward Him. In Elul we prepare for the day of judgment. All of the nations of the world are judged, not just the Jews. It is an important time for every person and every nation.

## Elul Month 5771 Crucial To Israel in Bible Code Glazerson

