

Torn Apart @ the Seams :(

Posted by Swift Eagle - 23 Jul 2020 12:09

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"They tied two cedar trees together with a rope, and tied one of his legs to one cedar and one of his legs to the other cedar, and they released the rope until his head split open. Each tree went back and stood in its place and bar Haddaya split and fell completely split in two." (Brachos 56b)

That's what I feel like many times. The war's so intense. Part of me wishes so strongly to do Hashem's will, it craves to connect with him thru Torah, Tefillah & Avodah, while another part of me so deeply craves all the empty vanities of this world. When I pass a nice car the battle ensues, metzad echad I love nice things, I've got many dreams, metzad sheini give up your dreams of physical beings, it's either Hashem or hunks of steel. The more attached you are to this world, the less connection to the spiritual world, true joy only comes from the source of life, everything else will just bring strife. What kind of life is it, being ruled by your desires, isn't it higher to which you aspire! Oh I love V6 engines V8 even better, leather seats & all the pitchifkes, steak, fancy plates I'd surround myself with opulence if I'd have the assets, my dreams don't stop at reality but travel far beyond, if only I'd have the means, these are a portion of my dreams:

Shabbos night Tablesetting: Stemware of authentic ruby ore, 18kt rosegold cutlery & ivory china on the finest silk crushed velvet burgundy spread, Sapphire & white gold etc for the morning seudah setting, Emerald & yellow gold for Shalosh Seudos.... Polar bear fur on the ceiling, leopard skins on the walls, crocodile leather floors, chandelier of African amethyst, citrine & rhodium... you get the picture... I am controlled by my desires, yet my soul aspires to go higher. I feel both sides so strongly, it's a constant battle, but yet my animal soul supersedes & it's cravings do not feed my soul rather the opposite is true. Depression is when the soul smells the scent of death is near, not because it doesn't care. It's being choked to death by being cut off from G-d. Help me! Save me! A life of goodness! What I could be! I never ever want to leave you, bring me back cause I need you! Although I'm low & falling down, I seek you, I need you I never ever ever ever want to leave you!!! Oh, would you take me back homw to the city of gold, take me into your arms, rescue me from this place of death, I can only start, it's up to you the rest. Help me give you my best, I'm drowning in my tears, yes I know it's been many times that I've lowered myself into the evil inclinations steel claws, about to be smashed by his razor sharp jaws. But rescue me again, for your patience is endless, no matter how many times I'm so foolish & lose my way, to you I can always pray. Help me! Raise me up! Rescue me from my body's grip! I can feel you know more, I'm already under the floor. I've dirtied myself with the worst, please clean me off. Like an infant dependent on it's mother so are we to you, without you we can make no move. I gotta go now, though I've got so much more to say, cry & pray. So I shall be back soon with your good grace.

So Long, With Intense Burning Love & Shame,

Swift Eagle just the same

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Re: Torn Apart @ the Seams :(  
Posted by Captain - 04 Aug 2020 13:53

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Agreed. But for myself I know that the fact that I thought I could never do teshuva meant that I was permanently besmirched and blackened, which is something that makes it harder to fight. One of the most powerful forces in this fight is the positive identity as a fighter that we reach when we start trying to succeed, combined with the identity we hope to reach as we move along. Feeling permanently ruined and defective but "hey it can get worse" is not enough motivation to keep up the fight for long.

This idea is also backed up by numerous Gemaros and Torah sources, that when people feel they can't do teshuva that causes them not to fight and to give up. It's close to impossible to stay motivated with such an attitude. So while I agree with your point, I feel that this is very important as well.

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