

yechida's reflections

Posted by yechidah - 29 Jun 2009 19:47

(any questions , insights & suggestions about this thread,feel free to email me at taryaga@gmail.com)

There are many reasons we need to be where we are and who we are,most are unknown.Why do we even have to be in a situation or have in our soul so much darkness and a pull toward self-destructing negative behaviors?

I saw once an amazing thought in a sefer.Moshe Rabeinu came from a union that after the Torah was given would have deemed him a mamzer(parents being an aunt & nephew).He could not boast of his lineage.This is one reason that let him be the greatest Anov that ever lived.

We who have to deal with the stuff that's in us that we would rather not have in the first place-this pain and shame over the course of time -makes us realize that even when we b'ezras Hashem pull out of the addictions-we will never look at another Yid that is struggling with this in a negative way

We catch a Yid looking where he shouldn't be looking and our hearts are full of compassion.We will daven for him,treat him with respect,gently try to get him out of it.We would never disgrace him-not even in our hearts-because we were there.We know what it's like.In our eyes he is a potential tzaddik.

This is surely one reason Hashem gave us this urge towards baseness with all it's shades of ugliness.Yes you are special-like every Yid is-but never ever judge harshly My son or daughter that is struggling-because I love him or her - he or she is part of Klall Yisroel.Just as indispensable as you are.

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by Dov - 16 Feb 2011 01:30

Don't think about it, write about it. And not on the *keyboard*, but with your own hand. And not to anybody else, only to you. That is the only way it works for me and others who I know, so why not give it a try?

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by bendurdayah - 16 Feb 2011 07:23

Dov, can you please clarify?

Thank you,

BA

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by yechidah - 16 Feb 2011 13:43

Don't waste time

Agonizing over

Your place in life

Bloom where

You are planted

Let God take care

Of the rest

Blossom

Where you are

And God will

Bring you

To where you need to be.

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 16 Feb 2011 18:11

i really like your 'own' stuff yechida

please keep them coming

(i like the articles too but what you write is really special)

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by yechidah - 16 Feb 2011 19:37

Thank you Zemiros

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by yechidah - 16 Feb 2011 21:35

So you have given up

On God?

Know, that He has not

Given up

On you

Stray as you may

Uprooted as you may feel

Lost as you

May seem

God loves unconditionally

Even when sins and mistakes

Cloud the air

It is still only

The external manifestation

Of that which needs correction

This does not mean

That He has abandoned you

Or that He doesn't care

About every single aspect

Of your life

For the internal core

Is a constant

That did not change

And will never change

He is with you

At all times

And wants us

To connect with Him

So as to heal

And live again

With inner peace and joy

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by yechidah - 17 Feb 2011 21:53

Time itself

Encourages you

To use it

Wisely

Time is given to you

To fulfill

Your mission in life

Our Creator

Has given us

Time

To be a friend in life

To help each other

And not to "hurt" Time

As the sayings goes

"Chaval Al Hazman"

Time is also a creation

As we are living

Within it

And together

We sing

Our unique "Shirah"

To our Creator

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by yechidah - 18 Feb 2011 18:22

A great teacher

Inspires

His student

To discover

Within himself

A deep fountain

Of unique gifts

That he will

One day

Share with the world

A true teacher

Need not produce

Carbon copies of himself

It's not needful

For his legacy

To promote himself

And what he has achieved

For his own name

For him

His souls yearns

To be an enhancer

Drawing out

The great potential

Of each and every

One of his students

He sees the extraordinary

Within the mundane

The spark of inspiration

Hidden in the depths

Of externally perceived dullness

He sees the gifts of

His students

More so,

They are the gifts

They do not see yet themselves

He points out

Directly or indirectly

So as to awaken his student

Of the greatness within

The student's soul

Very different

From his teachers

A real teacher

Embraces the differences

Encourages its own journey

And gifts the student

To activate

All the tools

He will need in life

It's not just his mind

This teacher is sharing

It's his very soul

That he is opening up

To his student

Sharing his inner life

That will be passed along

Generation to generation

To the end of time.

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by yechidah - 21 Feb 2011 14:54

Feedback on the concepts of these series of notes are greatly appreciated-either via PM or at taryaga@gmail.com)

Light Notes # 4-“True Inner Worth ”-(Adar 1-5771)-VaYakeil

Dear Friends,

The Aron had a very unusual makeup,

3 separate boxes, three distinct layers

Gold on the outside, Gold on the inside-from there we learn out that the inside of a person should reflect the outside. “Tocho KeBaro” , “Inside like the outside” , consistent, external purity reflecting an inner one. Gold outside, Gold inside,

Yet,

there is wood in the middle.

What is that about?

One profound answer is as follows:

Gold on the outside reflects a great dignity and pride of being a Yid. There true beautiful external manifestation of a Ben and Bas Yisroel.

But one should not because haughty due to this gift

And so, right underneath is wood. Simple. Breakable. Humble. That is a place of growth that comes from true humility. Don't be arrogant. Don't talk down to anyone. Don't let the Gold poison your thinking. The wood right underneath the gold surface is telling us not to lose our heads in our golden state. So remember the simple wood. Treat every human being as if they are better and more noble than you....

And yet, right underneath the wood, there is another inner layer of gold.

It is dangerous to feel too low, too "humble"

For that type of humbleness will hold back a person from striving to become the special person he can be.

So the deepest and most inner part of him is precious gold

That no matter what, the purity of his neshamah shines

You are intrinsically good. Undamaged. That is the deepest level.

Pure Gold

This lesson is very important when someone tries to bash you. Or when you are a victim of Onoas Devorim. Or when you do not see what is good in yourself. It is then when it is very difficult to find the pure Gold within yourself.

And what can help is to keep this Hassidic story in mind. I saw this in a book called "Sacred Therapy" and the next two paragraphs are a direct quote from the book

Once , while on the road, Rabbi Isaac of Vorki and his teacher Rabbi David of Lelov stopped in an unfamiliar town. Suddenly a woman approached Reb David and began to beat him, having mistaken him for her estranged husband, who had abandoned her and her children several years earlier. While screaming and hitting Reb David, the woman suddenly realized that the man she was beating was not her husband but a famous Hasidic rebbe who happened to look a bit like her husband. Completely mortified, she immediately began to beg the rebbe's forgiveness, apologizing profusely for her terrible mistake. Instead of getting angry, Rabbi David responded with words of comfort, saying: "It's Ok, don't worry; it wasn't me you were hitting." The woman was completely baffled, but she went away feeling as though a heavy burden was lifted from her soul.

When Rabbi David said "it wasn't me you were hitting", he was, in fact, teaching the woman a very deep lesson. When we are hurt by another person's actions, our pain is often amplified by the fact that we tend to take personally what was done to us. We experience the pain as though it were intentionally directed at us and as though we must have deserved it. "It wasn't me you were hitting", was the wise rabbi's way of saying he was not identified with the "me" that had been the target of the woman's outrageous, insulting behavior. As an evolved spiritual being, Rabbi David was not primarily identified with his ego, so he felt no need to defend his honor and his pride. When he said "it wasn't Me you were hitting", perhaps he was also teaching the woman that she need not take her husband's abandonment of her so personally (It was his action ,not hers),If she would realize this, perhaps she would be released from her rage and be able to heal the damage that her husband's actions had inflicted on her self-esteem.

What her husband did to her was cruel. We can't blame her anger, Who can blame her for being hurt deeply. We cannot be judgemental of her bitterness.

But she can learn can learn that her inner core can never be broken. Even if she was not blameless , and there were reasons why her husband deserted her, some serious character flaws, she must still know that she has pure gold within her, independent of her own mistakes, no matter what life has brought to her.

The wood undercurrent can break, and that can hurt terribly. but the pure gold within,the deep essence of what is you cannot be hurt. That stays intact, that is pure, that inner gold, that will never be lost no matter what.

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by Dov - 22 Feb 2011 02:43

Thank-you Reb Yechida, that was beautiful. That story was very special to me and may Hashem help us put the idea of it into action in at least some small way.

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by ZemirosShabbos - 22 Feb 2011 05:49

so beautiful!

thanks Yechida

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by yechidah - 23 Feb 2011 14:11

Thank you Dov & Zemiros

Record in your hearts

And in writing

The precious details

Of wise elders

That wise elders

That will soon

Depart from

This world

There are many vital lessons

Bringing light to your life

And in your heart

Even as many years pass by

And these unique souls

Have moved on

To a better place

The simple words

Of a stranger

Who then vanishes

From your life

Don't forget it

Record it

For you never know

The special gifts

That sometimes

Come

From unexpected places

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by yechidah - 23 Feb 2011 14:55

Angelic Pleasure (saw this beautiful story on line-Rev Elimelech's yartzeit is Friday)

The saintly Rebbe Elimelech of Lizhensk once recovered from a life-threatening illness. When his recovery was complete, his closest disciples mustered their courage to ask him what he had seen while hovering between life and death.

The Rebbe said that he would tell one thing he learned:

As I walked in the Garden of Eden, I saw among the most honored souls a familiar face. He looked very much like Mottel the Bookbinder. To be sure, Mottel was a G-d-fearing Jew, an honest, hard-working bookbinder, but he was otherwise an undistinguished ordinary Jew, not even much of a Torah scholar.

"Is it truly you, Reb Mottel?" I asked the soul as I approached him.

"Yes, it is I," called out Reb Mottel happily.

"But how did you get to this exalted place?" I asked Reb Mottel quite innocently.

"When I was brought before the Heavenly Court, I was asked the usual questions. I had to admit that, regrettably, I had studied very little Torah. I didn't have much of a head for it. Besides, we were very poor, so I had to find a way of earning money to help my parents support the family. I was apprenticed, at an early age, to a bookbinder, I explained to the Court...

"They began the weighing of my mitzvot (commandments) and sins. On the right side of the scale, angels began putting all my good deeds. Then they pushed the scale down to make it weightier, saying this was for the joy and sincerity with which I performed the mitzvot. "But then other angels came forward and began to load my sins and misdeeds on the left scale. I watched with horror as my sins were added up. Most of the sins were truly not serious, and they happened because of my ignorance. But, though they were small, they were adding up

dangerously, till they tipped the scale.

"As I stood there before the Heavenly Court, trembling and ashamed, an angel suddenly appeared with a worn-out siddur (prayer book) in his hand. Behind him was a line of wagons loaded with sacks.

"I am the angel in charge of stray pages from holy books. I go to every Jewish home, every shul and every Jewish school. I look to see the condition of the holy books. Whenever I see a worn out book, with crumpled pages and loose covers it gives me tremendous pleasure, for this is a sign that the books are in constant use. But when I see that some of these books are tattered beyond repair, I am troubled, for every holy book has a holy soul, and every page has a soul, which must be treated with care and respect.

"In the course of my travels I met this man who is now here on trial. Ever since he was a child, Mottel loved his little siddur and would often caress and kiss it before closing it.

"When it came time for Mottel to be apprenticed, he told his father that there was nothing he would like more than to be a bookbinder.

"I have never seen a book-binder like Mottel,' continued the angel in my defense. 'He never got any pages mixed up, never missed a stitch, and always used the best materials. From time to time, he would go to the shuls in his town and collect holy books that cried out for attention. He took them home and worked late into the night to restore them, bind them and give them new life. He never charged for this and never even told anyone about it.

"I respectfully request that the Heavenly Court permit me to unload all the sacks of worn-out holy books to which Mottel the Bookbinder has given a second life, and put them on the scale with all his other mitzvot and good deeds.

"The Heavenly Court agreed. Long before the wagons were half unloaded, the scale with the mitzvot clearly outweighed the other side.

"Believe me, dear Rebbe," Mottel concluded, "I was as astonished as you were at what happened before my eyes at seeing me in this place of honor."

"I wanted to ask Mottel a few more questions," explained Rebbe Elimelech, "but at just that moment I began to recover. Reb Mottel's story speaks for itself. But let us also remember," Reb Elimelech enjoined his disciples, "that G-d never fails to give credit and reward for any good deed, even for such a seemingly trivial act as smoothing out a crumpled corner of a well worn page in a holy book."

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Re: yechida's reflections

Posted by yechidah - 24 Feb 2011 13:29

Even the

Smallest

Words and deeds

Can influence

Another human being

To

Transform a life

So never be

Discouraged

Nor discount

Any single little effort

On your part

To help another

For though you may not see

The tangible result

The affect can be profound

Life-changing

Without you

Ever being aware of it

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