

Tzemach Tzedek Ohr HaTorah Parshas Devarim צִיּוֹן בִּמִשִׁפַּט תִּפַּדָה וְשַׁבֵיהָ בִּצִּדְקָה

Introduction

This profound discourse by the **Tzemach Tzedek** (Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneersohn, 1789–1866), the third Rebbe of Chabad, was delivered on the eve of the Ninth of Av—a time marked by sorrow and mourning over the destruction of the Beis HaMikdash. The Tzemach Tzedek lived in Lubavitch and was the grandson of the Alter Rebbe. He succeeded his uncle and father-in-law, the Mitteler Rebbe, and laid the intellectual foundations that defined the Chabad system of thought for generations. A brilliant halachist and Kabbalist, his teachings intertwine deep metaphysical ideas with practical emotional and spiritual avodah.

In this discourse, the Tzemach Tzedek investigates the duality of the Jewish heart—its capacity for both bitterness and joy, exile and redemption. He explores how these two opposing emotional states—marirus (bitterness) and simchah (joy)—can coexist in one heart when truly aligned with the divine purpose. He also addresses the psychological state of galus: when one's inner heart is "occupied territory," so to speak, held captive by foreign desires and unholy inclinations. The central focus is on the pasuk, "בַּצְּדָקָהּ "בַּאָרָקָהּ"—that redemption, both cosmic and personal, comes through the twin powers of Torah (mishpat) and tzedakah (charity), enabling even the lowest spiritual states to return to divine service.

אוֹר לְיוֹם ב׳ עֶרֶב ט׳ בְּאָב, וִויטֶעכְּסְק On the night of Monday, the eve of Tisha B'Av, Vitebsk:

"Zion shall be redeemed with justice, and her returnees with righteousness" (Yeshayahu 1:27). It is written: "And these words that I command you today." The explanation: "today" refers to each and every day of our lives in this world, because every day must be in our eyes as if it were new.

And to understand this—how is it possible to be so? Behold, the purpose of the descent of souls into bodies—who beforehand were standing before Hashem even before the Six Days of Creation, because the angels alone were created during the Six Days, some say on the second day, and some say on the fifth, through the Divine utterance "let flying creatures fly," and this "flying creature" refers to Michael, etc.

Because their creation comes from the level of the letters of His speech, as it is written: "and by the breath of His mouth all their host." But the souls that are drawn from the letters of His thought, which is eternal—behold, they existed even before the Six Days of Creation.

צְּיּוֹן בְּמִשְׁפָּט תִּפָּדָה וְשָׁבֶיה בִּצְּדָקָה. כְּתִיב: וְהִיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מְצַוְּךְ הַיּוֹם. פֵּירוּשׁ: "הַיּוֹם" קָאֵי עַל כָּל יוֹם וָיוֹם מִימֵי שְׁנוֹתֵינוּ בָּעוֹלֶם הַזֶּה. מִשׁוּם דְּבְכָל יוֹם צָרִיךְ לְהְיוֹת בְּעֵינֵינוּ בַּחַדָשׁים

וּלְהָבִין זֶה אֵיךּ אָפְשֶׁר לְהִיוֹת כֵּן, הָנֵּה תַּכְלִית יְרִידַת הַנְּשָׁמוֹת בְּגוּפּוֹת שֶׁמִּקוֹדֶם הָיוּ עוֹמְדִים לִפְנֵי ה׳ מִקוֹדֶם שֵׁשֶׁת יְמֵי בְּרֵאשִׁית, כִּי הַמַּלְאָכִים בִּלְבַד הֵם שְׁנִּתְהַווּ בִּשֵׁשֶׁת יְמֵי בְּרֵאשִׁית, יֵשׁ אוֹמְרִים בַּשֵׁנִי וְיֵשׁ אוֹמְרִים בַּחַמִישִׁי עַל־יְדֵי מַאֲמֵר "וְעוֹף יְעוֹפַף", וְ"עוֹף" זֶה מִיכָאֵל כו׳

לְפִי שֶׁהָתְהַוּוּתָם הוּא מִבְּחִינֵת אוֹתִיוֹת דְּבּוּרוֹ יִתְבָּרַךְ, כְּדְכָתִיב: "וּבְרוּחַ פִּיו כָּל צְּבָאָם". אֲבָל הַנְּשָׁמוֹת שֶׁנְּמְשָׁכִים מֵאוֹתִיּוֹת מַחֲשַׁבְתוֹ יִתְבָּרֵךְ שֶׁהוּא נִצְחִיּוּת—הֲרֵי הָיוּ בְּמְצִיאוּת גַּם לֹדֶם שֵׁשֶׁת יִמִי בִּראשׁית.

מַקּיף, וְשׁוֹמֵר מִלְמַעְלָה.

אֵינָה מִתְלַבֶּשֶׁת בִּפְנִימִיוּת מַמְשׁ.

וְהַיִינוּ שֵׁשׁוֹמֵר פִּנִימִיוּת הַנְּשָׁמָה הַמְּלוּבֵּשֶׁת בַּגוּף

שׁלֹא תִּסְתַּלֵּק מְן הַגוּף וְתֵצֵא כו׳. אֲבָל מְכַּל־מַקוֹם

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That is, even before He began to reveal His speech and the breath of His mouth, saying: "Let there be light," etc. And as our Sages said: "With whom did He consult? With the souls of the righteous."	דהַיְינוּ גַם קֹדֶם שֶׁהָתְחִיל לְגַלּוֹת דְּבּוּרוֹ וְרוּחַ פִּיוּ יִתְבָּרַךְ בְּאָמְרוֹ: "יְהִי אוֹר" כו׳, וּכְמוֹ שֶׁאָמְרוּ רַבּוֹתֵינוּ זָכְרוֹנָם לְבָרֶכָה: "בְּמִי נִמְלַךְ? בְּנִשְׁמוֹת "צַדִּיקִים
Behold, they were already in existence before Creation—not only the righteous alone, but all of Israel, as it is written: "And your people are all righteous."	הָרֵי שֶׁהָיוּ קֹדֶם בְּרִיאָה. וְלֹא צַדִּיקִים בִּלְבַד, אֶלָּא כָּל יִישְׂרָאֵל, כִּי כְּתוּב: "וְעַמֵּךְ כֻּלָּם צַדִּיקִים".
And the purpose of their descent into bodies is for a supernal ascent—higher and higher. And to understand what this ascent is, even though in any case they are from the level of "letters of thought."	וּתַכְלִּית יְרִידָתָן בְּגוּפוֹת הִיא צֹרֶךְ עִלּוּי לְמַעְלָה מַעְלָה. וּלְהָבִין מַהוּ עִנְיַן הָעֲלִיָּה, גַּם מֵאַחַר שָׁגַּם בִּלְעֲדֵי זֹאת הֵם עִבָּרוֹת מַחֲשָׁבָה.
Behold, it will be understood through the explanation of what a soul actually is, since we say at the beginning of daily prayer the statement: "My G-d, the soul You placed in me is pure. You created it"	הָנֵּה יוּבַן בְּבֵיאוּר עִנְיַן הַנְּשֶׁמָה מֵה הִיא, בְּהִיוֹת כִּי אָנוּ אוֹמְרִים בִּתְחָלַת הַתְּפִלֶּה בְּכֶל יוֹם מַאֲמַר: ""נְשָׁמָה שֶׁנָּתַתָּה בִּי טְהוֹרָה הִיא, אַתָּה בְרָאתָה כוי"
The explanation of "it is pure" is that it is drawn from the level of the supernal purity. And afterwards: "You created it"—to be in the category of a created entity, something from nothing, until You breathed it into me—meaning the soul enclothed within the inner aspect of the body to enliven it.	פֵּירוּשׁ "טְהוֹרָה הִיא" שֶׁנְּמְשֶׁכֶת מִבְּחִינַת טָהֲרָה, עֶלְיוֹנָה, וְאַחַר כָּךְ "אַתָּה בְרָאתָה" לִהִיוֹת בְּרָחִינַת נִבְרָא יֵשׁ מֵאַיִן, עַד שֶׁנְּפַחְתָּה בִּי—בְּהִתְלַבְּשׁוּת הַנְּשָׁמָה בִּתְכוּנִיּוּת הַגּוּף לְהַחֵיוֹתוֹ
And afterwards: "You preserve it within me," and this is beyond the level of "it is pure." Because "it is pure" refers to the essence of the soul which is enclothed in an inner light and becomes limited within the body through the chain-like process of "You created, You formed, You breathed"—which are the three worlds of Beriah, Yetzirah, and Asiyah.	ְוְאַחַר כָּהַ: "אַתָּה מְשַׁמְּרָהּ בְּקּרְבִּי", וְהִיא לְמַעְלָה מִבְּחִינַת "טְהוֹרָה הִיא", כִּי בְּחִינַת "טְהוֹרָה הִיא" הִיא עֶצֶם הַנְּשָׁמָה הַמִּתְלַבָּשֶׁת בִּבְחִינַת אוֹר פְּנִימִי, וְנִתְגַבֶּלֶת בְּתוֹךְ הַגוּף עַל־יְדֵי הִשְׁתַּלְשְׁלוּת "בְּרָאתָה", "יָצַרְתָּה", "נָפַחְתָּה"—שָׁהֵן שְׁלשָׁה עוֹלָמוֹת דְּבִּי״ע ."יָצַרְתָּה",
But "You preserve it within me" is the level of His Essence, blessed be He, which is higher than the level of "pure." For it is not enclothed within the inner and internal aspect of the vessel,	אֲבָל "אַתָּה מְשַׁמְּרָה בְּקּרְבִּי" הוּא בְּחִינַת עַצְמוּתוֹ יִתְבָּרַךְּ, שֶׁלְמַעְלָה מִבְּחִינַת "טְהוֹרָה", שֶׁאֵינָה מִתְלַבֶּשֶׁת בִּפְנִימִיּוּת וּבִתְכוּנִיּוּת הַכֵּלִי, רַק בִּבְחִינַת

but rather surrounds and protects from above.

become fully enclothed in true inwardness.

That is: He protects the inner soul that is enclothed in the body

so that it does not depart and exit, etc. However, it still does not

יִהְיָה, אַף שֶׁהוּא מִפְּחוּתֵי הָעֵרֶדְ—יָכוֹל הוּא לְהוֹדוֹת

לַה׳.

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ציוֹן בְּמִשְׁפָּט תִּפָּדֶה וְשָׁבֶיהָ בִּצְּדָקָה

And so it can be understood generally in the chain of the Infinite Light, may He be blessed—there is the level of "filling all worlds" (mimalei kol almin) and "encompassing all worlds" (soveiv kol almin).	ְוְכָךְ יוּבַן בְּכָלֶלוּת הַהִּשְׁתַּלְשְׁלוּת דְּאֵין־סוֹף בָּרוּדְ־הוּא, הוּא בְּחִינַת "מְמֵלֵּא כָּל עָלְמִין" וְ"סוֹבֵב בּל עָלְמִין.
The explanation of "filling all worlds" is the light and vitality that becomes enclothed in the worlds in an internal way, grasped by them, and gives them life.	פֵּירוּשׁ "מְמַלֵּא כָּל עָלְמִין" הוּא הָאוֹר וְהַחַיּוּת הַמִּתְלַבֵּשׁ בָּעוֹלָמוֹת בִּבְחִינַת פְּנִימִיּוּת, שֶׁנִּתְפַּס בָּהֶם מַמָּשׁ וּמְחַיֶּה אוֹתָם.
And "encompassing" is the level of His essential light, blessed be He, which cannot be grasped internally by them. Nevertheless, it surrounds them in the form of protection, so that the vitality within (the mimalei) is not interrupted or worn out and removed from the worlds, etc.	ן"סוֹבֵב" הוּא בְּחִינַת עַצְמוּת אוֹרוֹ יִתְבָּרַךּ, שֶׁאֵינוֹ יָכוֹל לִהְיוֹת נִתְפַּס בָּהֶם בִּבְחִינַת בְּנִימִיּוּת, אֲבָל מִכֶּל־מָקוֹם הוּא סוֹבֵב עֲלֵיהֶם בִּבְחִינַת שְׁמִירָה, שֶׁלֹא יִפָּסֵק וְיִבְלֶה הַחַיּוּת שֶׁבִּבְחִינַת בְּנִימִיּוּת וְיֵצֵא בֵּהָעוֹלָמוֹת כו׳
And so it is understood in the very details of each and every created being, that He, blessed be He, both fills and encompasses each one.	ְּוְכָךְ יוּבַן בִּפְרָטֵי פְּרָטִיּוֹת הַנִּבְרָאִים, שֶׁהוּא יִתְבָּרַהְ מְמַלֵּא וְסוֹבֵב עַל כָּל אֶחָד וְאֶחָד מֵהֶם.
And the meaning of "encompasses" is not that He is outside or above, but rather that in every place and every corner, He both fills through the enclothing of vitality within the being, and encompasses in the sense of guarding it—so that the life-force is not interrupted, etc.	וְאֵין פֵּירוּשׁ "סוֹבֵב" מִלְמַעְלָה, אֶלָּא שֶׁבְּכָל אַתְרָא וּבְכָל פָּנָה הוּא מְמֵלֵּא בְּהִתְלַבְּשׁוּת הַחַיּוּת בִּתְכוּנִיּוּת הַנִּבְרָא, וְ"סוֹבֵב" בִּבְחִינַת שְׁמִירָה שֶׁלֹּא יִפְסֹק הַחַיּוּת .כו׳
And the end of the statement is: "As long as the soul is within me, I offer thanks before You," etc., and afterwards: "Blessed are You, Hashem" The explanation is that the giving of thanks exists within every individual Jew, for all are capable of giving thanks to Hashem.	ְוְסִיּוּם הַמַּאֲמָר הוּא: "כָּל זְמֵן שֶׁהַנְּשָׁמָה בְּקּרְבִּי, מוֹדָה אֲנִי לְפָנֶיךְ כוי", וְאַחַר כָּךְ "בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה הי"—פַּירוּשׁ כִּי הַהוֹדָאָה הִיא שֶׁיֵשְׁנָה בְּכָל אֶחָד וְאֶחָד מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל, שֶׁכֵּלָם יְכוֹלִים לְהוֹדוֹת לַה׳.
For anyone who does not bow in "Modim" (the thanksgiving prayer) has his spine turned into a snake, etc. Therefore, it says in singular form: "As long as the soul is within me, I offer thanks" meaning that in every single Jew, once he has a soul	שֶׁהָרֵי "מַאן דְּלָא כָרַע בְּמוֹדִים—נַצְשֵׂית שִׁדְרָתוֹ נָחָשׁ כו׳", וְלָכֵן אָמַר בְּלָשׁוֹן יָחִיד: "כָּל זְמַן שֶׁהַנְּשֶׁמָה בְּקְרָבִּי מוֹדֶה אֲנִי", פֵּירוּשׁ—בְּכָל אֶחָד וְאָחָד מִיִשְׂרָאַל, מִיָּד שָׁיֵשׁ לוֹ נְשָׁמָה בְּקִרְבּוֹ, יִהְיֶה כַּאֲשֶׁר

within him, no matter who he is—even someone of the lowest

spiritual standing—he is able to give thanks to Hashem.

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And afterwards: "Blessed are You, Hashem..."—this is a higher level, etc.

וְאַחַר כָּךְ: "בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה׳"—הִיא מַדְרֵגָה גְבוֹהָה יוֹתר כו׳

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And to understand this, and also to understand the explanation of the concept of "thanksgiving"—what is it? How is the concept of "thanksgiving" to be understood? Is there, Heaven forbid, an argument between us and our Father in Heaven, such that we would need to concede to Him?

For it makes sense between one person and another to speak of thanksgiving—for example, "The Sages concede to Rabbi Meir," where there is a disagreement between them, etc.

However, in truth, there *is* a disagreement. For behold, we who dwell below say that creation is "something from nothing"—meaning that the world appears to us as "something," as an actual entity; the heavens and the earth and the heavens of heavens are, to our eyes, "something" real.

And whatever is above them is called "nothing," because it is not grasped by us. And the higher it is, the more it is "nothing," since it is further removed from the scope of our comprehension of "something."

But before Him, blessed be He, it is the opposite. For in truth, He is the true "Something," and what is below is considered "nothing," for it is absolutely insignificant—like nothing and naught.

And more particularly, every lower level is considered "nothing" in relation to that which is above it, as is known. Therefore, the lower something is, the more it is "nothing," etc.

And on this we say: "We offer thanks to You"—that we concede that the truth is *not* as it appears to us with our physical eyes, but rather the truth is as it is before Him, blessed be He—that He is the true "Something," and everything before Him is considered like nothing.

וּלְהָבִין זֶה, גַּם לְהָבִין בֵּיאוּר עִנְיַן הַהוֹדָאָה מֵה הוּא, אֵיך יִתָּבֵן בְּחִינַת הוֹדָאָה, וְכִי מַחֲלוֹקֶת יֵשׁ בֵּינֵינוּ וּבֵין אָבִינוּ שֶׁבַּשָּׁמַיִם חַס וְשָׁלוֹם, עַד שֶׁנִּצְטָרֵךְ לְהוֹדוֹת ?אליו

כִּי בְּשֶׁלְמָא בְּאָדָם לַחֲבֵירוֹ שַׁיֵּדְ לוֹמַר הוֹדָאָה, כְּמוֹ מוֹדִים חֲכָמִים לְרַבִּי מֵאִיר", שֶׁיֵשׁ מַחְלוֹקֶת בֵּינֵיהֶם כו

אָבָל כִּי בָּאֱמֶת יֵשׁ פְּלוּגְתָּא, כִּי הִנֵּה אֲנַחְנוּ שׁוֹרְנֵי מַטָּה אוֹמְרִים שֶׁהַבְּרִיאָה הִיא יֵשׁ מֵאַיָן, פִּירוּשׁ שֶׁהָעוֹלָם נִדְמֶה בְּעַרְכֵּנוּ לְיֵשׁ, וְדָבָר—שֶׁשָׁמַיִם וָאָרֶץ וֹישְׁמֵי הַשָּׁמִים הֵם הַגְּרָאִים לְעֵינֵינוּ לְיֵשׁ כוּ.

וּמַה שֶׁלְמַעְלָה מֵהֶם נִקְרָא "אַיִן", שֶׁאֵינוֹ מוּשָׂג אֵלֵינוּ, וְכָל שֶׁהוּא לְמַעְלָה יוֹתֵר הוּא בְּחִינַת "אַיִן" יוֹתֵר, כִּי הוּא יוֹתֵר רָחוֹק מֵעֶרֶךְ הַהַשְּׁגָה בִּבְחִינַת הַ"יֵשׁ" שֶׁלְנוּ

אָבָל לְפָנָיו יִתְבָּרַדְּ הוּא בְּהֶפֶּדְ, כִּי הֲרֵי בֶּאֱמֶת הוּא יִתְבָּרַדְּ הוּא הַיֵּשׁ הָאֲמִתִּי, וּמַה שֶׁלְּמַטָּה הוּא בְּחִינַת אַיִן", כִּי כְּלָא חֲשִׁיבָא מַמָּשׁ—כְּאַיִן וְאֶפֶס...

וּבִפָּרָטוּת, כָּל בְּחִינָה שֶׁלְּמֵטָּה יוֹתֵר הִיא בְּחִינַת "אַיִן" לְגַבֵּי שֶׁלְמַעְלָה מִמֶּנָּה, וּכַיָּדוּעַ. וְלָכֵן כָּל שֶׁהוּא לְמַטָּה מַטֵּה יוֹתִר—הוּא יוֹתֵר בָּחִינַת "אַין" כו.

ְּוַעַל זֶה אֲנַחְנוּ אוֹמְרִים: "מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָהִ"—שֶׁאֲנַחְנוּ מוֹדִים שֶׁהָאֱמֶת אֵינוֹ כְּפִי הַנִּדְמֶה לְנוּ לְפִי רְאוּת עֵינֵי בָשָׁר שֶׁלָנוּ, אֶלָּא שֶׁהָאֱמֶת כְּמוֹ שֶׁהוּא לְפָנָיו יִתְבָּרַהְ—שֶׁהוּא יִתְבָּרַהְ הוּא הַיֵּשׁ, וְכוּלָּא קַמֵּיה כְּלָא חֲשִׁיבָא—כָּאָיִן מַמֶּשׁ כְּלָא חֲשִׁיבָא—כָּאָיִן מַמֶּשׁ

צִיוֹן בְּמִשָׁפָט תִּפָּדָה וְשַׁבֵיהַ בִּצְדַקָה

And even though in our perception it is the opposite, as explained above, still, all Jews are believers. And therefore, every Jew—even the spiritually lowliest—possesses the quality of thanksgiving.

For "thanksgiving" means: even though a person himself is not near or close to what he is giving thanks for—meaning, even though the matter is not well-settled in his mind and heart—for if it truly were, then the category of thanksgiving would not apply, for there would be no differing opinion at all to require thanksgiving.

Rather, even though in truth, from his own perspective, he is not near or close to what he is thanking for—and on the contrary, it even appears to him the opposite—still, he believes that the truth is *not* as it appears to him, but as it is before Him, blessed be He.

Therefore, he gives thanks: "We thank You"—meaning, even though I cannot comprehend the truth of the matter, I believe it, and I acknowledge it.

(And this is the idea of "she is in Hod"—the aspect of Malchus; faith—which is where thanksgiving comes from, the ability to give thanks and nothing more).

And the trait of faith exists within every Jew. For even a thief, while digging through a tunnel, calls upon the Compassionate One—so we see that he believes in the ability of the Master of the World, even as he acts against His will.

For within himself, he has not absorbed and affirmed this as if he were seeing it with the eye of the intellect, or comprehending with true understanding the Divinity of the Blessed One—how He is the root and source of all worlds. For if he truly had, the fear of Hashem would be before his eyes, and he would not rebel, Heaven forbid, against His glorious presence.

Only that he believes alone. And faith is a crown above—that is, as explained above, the matter believed is not grasped internally...

וְאַף שֶׁבְּהַשֶּׂגָתֵנוּ הוּא בְּהֶפֶּף כַּנַּ"ל, אֲבָל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל מֵאֲמִינִים, וְלָכֵן כָּל אֶחָד וְאֶחָד מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל, אֲפִלּוּ פְּחוּתֵי גַרֶּךְ—יֵשׁ לָהֶם בְּחִינַת הוֹדָאָה.

כִּי הַהוֹדָאָה הִיא: הַגַּם שֶׁבְּעַצְמוֹ אֵינוֹ אֵצֶל וְסְמוּךְ לְמַה שָׁהוּא מוֹדָה, דְּהַיְנוּ, הַגַּם שָׁאֵין הַדְּבָר מִתְיַישֵׁב הִיטֵב בְּמוֹחוֹ וְלְבּוֹ—כִּי אָלוּ הָיָה כֵּן, לֹא הָיָה שַׁיֵּךְ בְּחִינַת בְּמֹוֹחוֹ וְלְבּוֹ—כִּי אֵלוּ הָיָה כֵּן, לֹא הָיָה שַׁיֵּךְ בְּחִינַת הוֹדָאָה, שֶׁהֲרִי אֵין כָּאן דֵּעָה אַחֶרֶת כְּלָל שֶׁיִּתָּכֵן עִנְיַן הוֹדָאָה.

אֶלָּא, אַף־עַל־פִּי שֶׁבֶּאֱמֶת מִצַּד עַצְמוֹ אֵינוֹ אֵצֶל וְסָמוּךְ לְמַה שָׁהוּא מוֹדֶה, וְאַדַרְבָּא נִדְמֶה לוֹ בְּהֶפֶּךְ—רַק שָׁאַף־עַל־פִּי־כֵן מַאֲמִין הוּא שֶׁהָאֱמֶת אֵינוֹ כְּמוֹ —שִׁנְּדְמֵה לוֹ, רַק כָּמוֹ שֵׁהוּא קַמֵּי קוּדְשַׁא־בַּרִיךְ־הוּא

> לָכֵן הוּא מוֹדָה: "מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ", דְהַיְנוּ: אַף־עַל־פִּי שָׁאֵינִי יָכוֹל לְהַשִּׂיג אֲמִיתַּת הַדָּבַר—מַאָמין אַני וּמוֹדָה אַנִי כו׳.

וְזֶהוּ: "אִיהִי בְּהוֹד"—בְּחִינַת מֵלְכוּת, אֱמוּנָה—מָזֶּה) (בָּא הוֹדָאָה שֶׁיָכוֹל לְהוֹדוֹת וְלֹא יוֹתֵר.

וּבְחִינַת אֱמוּנָה יֵשְׁנָהּ בְּכָל אֶחָד וְאֶחָד מִיִשְׂרָאֵל, כִּי אֲפִילוּ גַּנָּב אֲפוּם מַחְתַּרְתָּא רַחֲמָנָא קֶרִי—הַרֵי שֶׁמַּאָמִין בְּיְכוֹלֶת רְבּוֹנוֹ שֶׁל עוֹלֶם, אַף שֶׁעוֹשֶׂה נֶגֶד רָצוֹנוֹ כו׳.

כִּי בְּעַצְמוּתוֹ אֵינוֹ נִקְלָט כְּלָל וְנִתְאַמֵּת כְּלָל—לְהְיוֹת כְּאִלּוּ רוֹאָה בְּעִין הַשֵּׁכָל אוֹ מַשִּׂיג בְּהַשָּׁגָה אֲמִיתִּית אֱלוּקוּתוֹ יִתְבָּרַהְ, אֵיךְ שֶׁהוּא עִיקָּרָא וְשָׁרְשָׁא דְּכָל עָלְמִין—שֶׁאָז הָיָה פַּחַד ה׳ לְנֶגֶד עֵינָיו, שֶׁלֹא לִמְרוֹת עֵינֵי כְבוֹדוֹ חַס וְשָׁלוֹם

רַק שֶׁהוּא מַאֲמִין בִּלְכַד. וְהָאֱמוּנָה הִיא בְּחִינַת עֲטָרָה מִמַעַל, דְהַיְנוּ כְּנַ"ל, שֶׁאֵין הַדְּבָר הָאֱמון מוּשָׂג בּפִנימיּוּתוֹ כו׳.

צִיוֹן בְּמִשְׁפָּט תִּפָּדָה וְשָׁבֶיהָ בִּצְדָקָה

And nevertheless, from this there can still be a level of thanksgiving, which is likewise such that he acknowledges even though he does not comprehend it internally	וְאַף־עַל־פִּירכֵן יָכוֹל לִהְיוֹת מְזֶּה בְּחִינַת הוֹדָאָה—שֶׁהִיא גַּם־כֵּן כָּךְ: שֶׁמוֹדֶה הַגַּם שֶׁאֵינוֹ מַשִּׂיג בִּפְנִימִיּוּתוֹ כו׳.
And therefore, every Jew can give thanks to Hashem. And this is: "As long as the soul is within me, I offer thanks"	וְלָכֵן כָּל אֶחָד וְאֶחָד מִיִּשְׂרָאֵל יָכוֹל לְהוֹדוֹת לַה׳. וְזֶהוּ: ""כָּל זְמַן שֶׁהַנְּשָׁמָה בְּקּרְבִּי מוֹדָה אֲנִי כו׳".
But afterward: "Blessed are You, Hashem"—the meaning of "blessing" is drawing down; that is, the revelation of the very thing being drawn, emerging from concealment into revelation.	אֲבָל אַחַר־בָּך: "בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה׳"—פֵּירוּשׁ: בְּרָכָה הוּא עִנְיַן הַמְשָׁכָה, וְהַיְינוּ בְּחִינַת הִתְגַלוּת אוֹתוֹ דָבָר הַנְּמְשָׁךְ, שָׁנְּמְשָׁךְ מֵהַהֶּעְלֵם לַגִּלוּי.
Just as with the idea: "Yishmael, my son, bless me," and "Blessed is Hashem from the world to the world"—that it is drawn from the hidden world into the revealed world—that is, into actual revelation.	וּכְמוֹ עִנְיַן "יִשְׁמָעֵאל בְּנִי בָּרְכֵנִי", וְכֵן "בָּרוּךּ ה׳ מִן הָעוֹלָם וְעַד הָעוֹלָם"—שֶׁנִּמְשָׁךּ מֵעָלְמָא דְּאִתְכַּסְיָא לְעָלְמָא דְאִתְגַּלְיָא, דְהַיִּינוּ לְהִיוֹת בִּבְחִינַת גִּלוּי מַמְּשׁ.
That is, the Divinity of the Blessed One should be in actual revelation to the created beings—that it should be absorbed and affirmed in them as if seen with the eye of the intellect—His being the one who fills and enlivens all creations and constantly renews them every moment, bringing them from nothing into being.	דְהַיְינוּ: שֶׁתִּהְיֶה אֱלוּתוֹ יִתְבָּרֵךְ בְּגִלוּי מַמָּשׁ עַל הַנִּבְרָאִים—שָׁיִּהְיֶה נִקְלָט וְנִתְאַמֵּת לָהֶם אֱלוּקוּתוֹ—לָהְיוֹת כְּאִלוּ רוֹאִים מַמָּשׁ בְּעֵין הַשֵּׁכֶל אֵיךְ שֶׁהוּא מְמֵלֵּא וּמְחַיֶּה כָּל הַנִּבְרָאִים, וּמְחַדֵּשׁ בְּכָל יוֹם תָּמִיד וּבְכָל שָׁעָה וְרָגַע מֵאַיִן לְיֵשׁ כו׳
And this is a higher and more elevated level than the matter of thanksgiving, which is not in a state of revelation, etc.	ְןהוּא בְּחִינָה וּמַדְרֵגָה עֶלְיוֹנָה וְנַעֲלֵית יוֹתֵר מֵעִנְיַן בְּחִינַת הוֹדָאָה—שֶׁאֵינָה בִּבְחִינַת גִּלּוּי כו׳.
And behold, the level of blessing and drawing down mentioned above—which is the level of Shemoneh Esrei, the eighteen blessings of prayer in "Blessed are You"—all of it is a level of drawing down, etc.	ג) וְהַנֵּה בְּחִינַת בְּרָכָה וְהַמְשָׁכָה הַנַּ"ל, שֶׁהוּא בְּחִינַת) שְׁמוֹנֶה עֶשְׂרֵה—ח"י בְּרָכָן דְּצְלוֹתָא, "בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה הֹי"—הַכֹּל בְּחִינַת הַמְשָׁכוֹת כו'.
And in order to reach this level, one must first go through the level of Krias Shema: "And you shall love Hashem your G-d with all your heart"—for through this comes afterward, "And these words which I command you"—which is the level of drawing down the Infinite Light through the engagement in Torah. So too with "And it shall be if you will listen," etc.	וּבְכְדֵי שֶׁיַּגִּיעַ לְבָחִינָה זוֹ, צָרִיךְ לְהָיוֹת מִקּוֹדֶם בְּחִינַת קְרִיאַת שְׁמַע: "וְאָהַרְתָּ אֵת ה׳ אֱלֹקֶיךְ בְּכָל לְבָבְךְ כו׳", שֶׁעַל־יְדֵי זֶה אַחַר־כָּךְ: "וְהָיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מְצַוְּךְּ"—שָׁהוּא בְּחִינַת הַמְשָׁכוֹת אוֹר אֵין־סוֹף עַל־יְדֵי עַסֶק הַתּוֹרָה, וְכֵן "וְהָיָה אִם שָׁמוֹעַ" כו׳
And behold, in order to also reach the quality and level of the aspect of "And you shall love," it is through meditation at the beginning in the verse "Shema Yisrael" And our Sages instituted to add afterward "Baruch shem kevod	ְוְהָנֵּה גַּם כְּדֵי לְהַגִּיעַ לְמַעֲלַת וּמַדְרֵגַת בְּחִינַת "וְאָהַרְתָּ", הוּא עַל־יְדֵי הָתְבּוֹנְנוּת מִתְּחָלֶּה בְּפָסוּק "שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל" כו׳, וְחָזַ"ל תִּקְנוּ עוֹד לוֹמֵר אַחַר־כָּךְ "בָּרוּך שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ"—וְאָז עַל־יִדֵי זָה יָבוֹא "אַחַר־כָּךְ לְקִיּוּם "וְאָהַרְתָּ

Tzemach Tzedek Ohr HaTorah Parshas Devarim צִיּוֹן בִּמִשִׁפַּט תַּפַּדָה וְשַׁבֵיהָ בִּצִּדְקָה

malchuso..."—and through this one comes to fulfill "And you shall love."

The explanation: Hear and contemplate how "Hashem is our G-d, Hashem is One"—that He is exalted and elevated and uplifted above all the upper and lower worlds. Only in "Baruch shem kevod malchuso"—that His kingship, i.e., that He is called by His name upon them, and He is called King over them and exalted above them—only *this* gives life to all the upper worlds.

"And Your dominion is in every generation"—for dominion is lower than kingship, since kingship is an inner level—because a king rules only when accepted willingly. But dominion is an external level, where the ruler subjugates against the will.

Therefore, it says: "Your kingship is over all worlds"—referring to the upper worlds that accept His kingship willingly. But in "every generation" in this lowly world, where there are wicked people, rebellious and sinful, who do not accept the yoke of His kingship, it is not fitting to say "Your kingship" but only "Your dominion," etc.—which is the external level of kingship.

And all the upper worlds—even Gan Eden, which is a wondrous delight, such that our Sages said "Better to be judged…" [and forfeit that delight than sin]—and Gan Eden and many other lofty levels, all are created from His kingship alone.

Which is not of His Essence. That alone enlivens them, and therefore creation is called "something from nothing," because the primary vitality of creations is truly "nothing" in relation to the Infinite One, blessed be He.

פֵּירוּשׁ: "שְׁמַע וְהָתְבּוֹגַן אֵיךּ שֶׁה׳ אֱלֹקֵינוּ ה׳ אֶחָד"—שֶׁהוּא יִתְבָּרַךְ מֻבְדָּל וּמְרוֹמָם וּמִתְנַשֵּׂא מִכָּל הָעוֹלְמוֹת עֶלְיוֹנִים וְתַחְתּוֹנִים, רַק "בָּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מֵלְכוּתוֹ"—שֶׁבְּחִינַת מֵלְכוּתוֹ יִתְבָּרַךְ, דְּהַיְנוּ מֵה שֶׁהוּא יִתְבָּרַךְ נִקְרָא שְׁמוֹ עֲלֵיהֶם, שֶׁהוּא נִקְרָא מֶלֶךְ עֲלֵיהֶם וּמִתְנַשֵּׂא עֲלֵיהֶם—זֶה בִּלְבַד הוּא הַמְּחַיֶּה כָּל הָעוֹלְמוֹת עֶלְיוֹנִים.

וּמֶמְשַׁלְתְּךְ בְּכָל דּוֹר וָדוֹר"—שֶׁהַמֶּמְשָׁלֶה הִיא גַּם" לְמֵטָה מִבְּחִינַת הַמְּלוּכָה, כִּי הַמְּלוּכָה הִיא בְּחִינַת פְּנִימִיוּת—שֶׁהֲרֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ הוּא כְּשֶׁמְּקַבְּלִים אוֹתוֹ בִּרְצוֹן. אֲבָל הַמֶּמְשָׁלָה הִיא בְּחִינַת חִיצוֹנִיּוּת—שֶׁהַמּוֹשֵׁל הוּא הָרוֹדָה בְּעַל כָּרְחוֹ שֶׁלֹא בִּרִצוֹן כו׳

וְלָכֵן נֶּאֱמַר: "מַלְכוּתְּהָ מַלְכוּת כָּל עוֹלָמִים"—שֶׁהֵן
בְּחִינַת עוֹלָמוֹת עֶּלְיוֹנִים שֶׁמְּקַבְּּלִים עֹל מַלְכוּתוֹ בִּרְצוֹן
עֲלֵיהֶם, אֲבָל "בְּכָל דּוֹר וָדוֹר" בָּעוֹלָם הַנָּה שֶׁיֵשׁ
רְשָׁעִים הַמּוֹרְדִים וְהַפּּוֹשְׁעִים שֶׁאֵינָם מְקַבְּּלִים עֲלֵיהֶם
עוֹל מַלְכוּתוֹ—לֹא שֵׁיֵךְ לוֹמֵר אֲפָלוּ "מַלְכוּתְּדְּ", רַק
"מֶמְשֵׁלְתְּדְּ" כו׳—שֶׁהוּא בְּחִינַת חִיצוֹנִיּוּת
הַמָּלוּכָה—וְדַי לְמֵבִין

ְּוֶכֶל הָעוֹלֶמוֹת עֶלְיוֹנִים—גַּן עֵדֶן שֶׁהוּא תַּעֲנוּג נִפְּלָא, עַד שֶׁאָמֶרוּ רַבּוֹתֵינוּ זִכְרוֹנָם לְבְרָכָה: "מוּטָב דְּלֵידִינִי" כו׳—וְגַן עֵדֶן וְעוֹד בְּחִינוֹת רַבּוֹת "גָּבֹהַ מֵעַל גָּבֹהַ"—בָּלָם נִתְחַוּ מִבְּחִינַת מַלְכוּתוֹ יִתְבָּרַךְ שָׁבְּחִינַת הַמְּלוּכָה בִּלְבָד—מַה שֶׁנָקְרָא מֶלֶךְּ —עַלִיהָם

שָׁאֵינוֹ בִּבְחִינַת עַצְמוּתוֹ—הוּא הַמְּחַיֶּה אוֹתָם. וְלָכֵן נִקְרֵאת הַבְּּרִיאָה: "יֵשׁ מֵאַיִן", כִּי עִקַּר חַיּוּת הַנִּבְּרָאִים נִקְרֵאת בָּאֵמֵת "אַיָן" לְגַבֵּי אֵין־סוֹף בַּרוּדְּ־הוּא. נִקְרֵאת בָּאֵמֵת

צִיוֹן בִּמְשָׁפָּט תִּפָּדָה וְשָׁבֵיהָ בִּצְדָקָה

For since the primary vitality of the creations is from the level of the attribute of Kingship—even that is not enclothed within them inwardly, but only in a surrounding manner—like the analogy of a king, whose essence of kingship is above the people, that his name is called upon them, but no illumination is drawn and extended into their inwardness—therefore, it is called the level of absolute nothingness and nullity in relation to His Essence, blessed be He.

כִּי מֵאַחַר שֶׁעִקַּר חַיּוּתָם הוּא מִבְּחִינַת מְדַּת הַמַּלְכוּת, שָׁאַף גַּם זוֹ אֵינֶנָה הַמִּתְלַבֶּשֶׁת בִּתְכוּנִיּוּתָם, רַק בִּבְחִינַת מַקִּיף, כְּמָשֶׁל הַמֶּלֶךְ—שֶׁמֵּהוּת הַמַּמְלָכָה הוּא מִמַּעַל לָעָם, שֶׁנְקְרָא שְׁמוֹ עֲלֵיהֶם, אֲבָל לֹא שֶׁנְמְשֵׁך וּמִתְפַּשֵׁט אֵיזֶה הָאָרָה בִּתְכוּנִיּוּתָם—לָכֵן נִקְרַאת בָּחִינַת "אַיִן וְאָפֶס" מַמָּשׁ לְגַבֵּי עַצְמוּתוֹ יִתְבָּרַךְּ.

However, behold, all this is in the upper worlds. But in this world—which is the world of change and transformation—a person can draw down the revelation of the Essence of the Infinite One, blessed be He, to become unified in the "body" of Kingship.

אֲבָל הָנֵּה כָּל זֶה הוּא בָּעוֹלָמוֹת עֶלְיוֹנִים, אֲבָל בָּעוֹלֶם הַזֶּה—שֶׁהוּא עוֹלָם הַשָּׁנּוּי וְהַתְּמוּרָה—יָכוֹל הָאָדָם לְהַמְשִׁיךְ גִּילּוִי עַצְמוּת אֵין־סוֹף בָּרוּדְ־הוּא לָאִשְׁתַעְבַּא בָּגוּפָא דְּמַלְכוּת.

And the reason is because the upper worlds receive only from the level of "filling all worlds," as it says: "With the letter Yud the World to Come was created"—for the Yud indicates contraction of the drawing down, etc., since they are already after the process of refinement.

ְהַשַּעַם, כִּי עוֹלָמוֹת עֶלְיוֹנִים הֵם מְקַבְּלִים מִבְּחִינַת "מְמַלֵּא כָּל עָלְמִין" בָּלְבַד, כְּמַאֲמֶר: "בִּיוּ"ד נִבְרָא הָעוֹלֶם הַבָּא", שֶׁהַיּוּ"ד הוּא מוֹרֶה עַל צִמְצוּם הַהַמְשָׁכָה כו׳, לְפִי שֶׁהֵם כְּבָר לְאַחַר הַבֵּרוּר.

But in this world, the level of "surrounding all worlds" rests, in order to refine and transform darkness into light, etc.

אָבָל בָּעוֹלָם הַזָּה שׁוֹרֶה בְּחִינַת "סוֹבֵב כָּל עָלְמִין",
בּשְׁבִיל לְבָרֵר וּלְהַהְפֵּךְ מִחְשׁוֹכָא לִנְהוֹרָא כו׳
וְלָכֵן זוֹת צָרִיךְ הָאָדָם שֶׁיָשִׁים אֶל לִבּוֹ, שֶׁבָּעוֹלָם הַבָּא אִי־אֶפְשָׁר לַצְלוֹת רַק בְּהַדְרָגָה—וְצָרִיךְ מִתְּחִלְּה "כַּף אִי־אֶפְשָׁר לַצְלוֹת רַק בְּהַדְרָגָה—וְצָרִיךְ מִתְּחִלְּה "כַּף הַקַּלֵע", וְאַחַר כָּךְ בִּגַן עֵדָן הַתַּחִתוֹן, וְאַחַר כָּךְ דִּנוֹר", וְאַחַר כָּךְ בְּגַן עֵדָן הַתַּחְתוֹן, וְאַחַר כָּךְ "נְהַר דִּינוּר", וְאַחַר כָּךְ בְּגַן עֵדָן הַתַּלִיוֹן כו׳—בָּמִשְׁפַט הַרָאוּי לְכַל אָחַד וְאָחַד ...
הַעַלִיוֹן כו׳—בְּמִשְׁפַט הַרָאוּי לְכַל אָחַד וְאָחַד ...

Therefore, a person must take to heart that in the World to Come, one cannot ascend except by gradual stages: first "Kaf HaKela," then Gehinom, then lower Gan Eden, then "Nehar Dinur," then upper Gan Eden, etc., each person according to their due judgment.

ְוָהַתְּשׁוּבָה אֵינָה מוֹעֶלֶת כְּלֶל, רַק "יְשֵׁלֵם לְאִישׁ כְּפִי מַעֲשֵׂהוּ", וְהַיִּינוּ לְפִי שֶׁהוּא מְקַבֵּל מִבְּחִינַת "מְמַלֵּא כָּל עָלְמִין", שֶׁמִּבְּחִינָה זוֹ אִי־אֶפְשָׁר לְשַׁנּוֹת וּלְהָפֵּךְ מִבְּחִינָה לְבָּחִינָה—כִּי אֵין לְךְּ דָבָר שָׁאֵין לוֹ מָקוֹם, רַק כִּפִי הַהַּדְרַגַּה כו׳

And repentance is of no benefit there; only "each man shall be paid according to his deed." And this is because he receives from the level of "filling all worlds," and from that level it is impossible to change and reverse from one level to another—for "there is nothing that has no place," only according to the proper gradation, etc.

אָבָל בָּעוֹלָם הַזֶּה—שֶׁיֵּשׁ בּוֹ בְּחִינַת "סוֹבֵב כָּל עָלְמִין"—לָכֵן יָכוֹל הָאָדָם לְשַׁנּוֹת אֶת טִבְעוֹ מִן הַקּצָה אֶל הַקָּצֶה מַמֶּשׁ, בְּרָגַע אֶחָד עַל־יְדֵי תִּשׁוּבָה.

But in this world, which contains the level of "surrounding all worlds," a person can change his nature from one extreme to the other completely, in a single moment, through repentance.

Tzemach Tzedek Ohr HaTorah Parshas Devarim ציוֹן בִּמִשִׁפַּט תִּפַּדָה וְשַׁבִיהָ בִּצְדָקָה

As our Sages said: "One who betroths a woman on the condition that he is a completely righteous man—she is betrothed, even if he is completely wicked—for perhaps he had a thought of repentance in that moment."

And for this reason, our Sages said: "Better one hour of repentance and good deeds in this world than all the life of the World to Come."

And this is also the meaning of the verse: "Because you did not serve Hashem your G-d with joy..."—meaning, on a level higher than the World to Come, which is called "kol" (all), which is only a ray, etc.

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And behold, by contemplating all of this during Krias Shema, in the paragraph of "Shema Yisrael," etc., and in "Baruch shem kevod malchuso..."—then from this he will come to the level of "And you shall love [Hashem] with all your soul," meaning with actual self-sacrifice, and not just the giving over of the body.

And the ultimate purpose is to draw down the Infinite One, blessed be He, the One who surrounds all worlds, to below. And this is through Torah and mitzvos, which are the 248 limbs—248 commandments—meaning, the drawing down of vitality from the Divine Will.

Like the analogy of the limbs of a human being, in which the will of the mind is enclothed—as it is known, that there is a tendon in each limb that extends from the brain, in which the will is enclothed to move the limb according to what is desired, etc.

So too, the mitzvos are the limbs and vessels in which the Divine Will is enclothed—and through fulfilling the mitzvos, the Divine Will is drawn and revealed, etc.

Therefore, after saying "And you shall love... with all your heart," etc., with self-sacrifice as mentioned above, then afterwards he can say: "And these words..."—which refers to the drawing down of G-dliness: "Which I"—meaning the "I" of

וּכְמוֹ שֶׁאָמְרוּ רַבּוֹתֵינוּ זִכְרוֹנָם לִבְרָכָה: "הַמְקַדֵּשׁ אֶת הָאִשָּׁה עַל מְנָת שֶׁהוּא צַדִּיק גָמוּר—מְקוּדֶּשֶׁת, אֲפִלוּ הוֹא רָשָׁע גָמוּר—שֶׁמָּא הִרְהֵר תְּשׁוּבָה אוֹתָה שְׁעָה".

וּמִטֶעַם זֶה אָמְרוּ רַבּוֹתֵינוּ זִכְרוֹנָם לְבְרָכָה: "יָפָה שָׁעָה אַחַת שֶׁל תְּשׁוּבָה וּמַעֲשִׂים טוֹבִים בָּעוֹלָם הַזֶּה מִכָּל חַיֵּי הָעוֹלָם הַבָּא.

וְזֶהוּ גַּם־כֵּן פֵּירוּשׁ הַפָּסוּק: "תַּחַת אֲשֶׁר לֹא עָבַדְתָּ אֶת ה׳ אֱלֹקִידְ בְּשִׁמְחָה"—פֵּירוּשׁ: לְמַעְלָה מִבְּחִינַת הָעוֹלָם הַבָּא, שֶׁנָּקְרָא "כֹּל"—שֶׁאֵינוֹ אֶלָּא זִיו כו׳.

וְהָנֵּה בְּהָתְבּוֹנְנוֹ בְּכָל זֶה בְּקְרִיאַת שְׁמֵע בְּפָּרְשֵׁת "שְׁמֵע יִשְׂרָאַל" כו׳ וּבְ"בָּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ"—אָז יָבוֹא מִזֶּה לְבְחִינַת "וְאָהַבְתָּ בְּכָל נַפְשְׁךְּ"—בְּמְסִירַת נָפֶשׁ מַמָּשׁ, וְלֹא בִּמְסִירַת הַגוּף בַּלְבַד

וְהַתַּכְלִית הוּא לְהַמְשִׁיךּ אֵין־סוֹף בָּרוּדְּ־הוּא הַ"סוֹבֵב בָּל עָלְמִין" לְמַשָּה. וְהַיִּינוּ עַל־יְדֵי תּוֹרָה וּמִצְוֹת—שֶׁהֵן רַמַ"ח אֵיבָרִים, רַמַ"ח פִּקוּדִין—דְּהַיִינוּ הַמְשָׁכַת הַחַיּוּת מֵרְצוֹן הָעֶלְיוֹן

כְּמָשָׁל אֵיבָרֵי הָאָדָם, שֶׁמִּתְלַבֵּשׁ בָּהֶם הָרָצוֹן שֶׁבַּמּוֹחַ, כַּנּוֹדָע שֶׁיֵשׁ גִּיד בְּכָל אֵבֶר—נִמְשָׁךְ מִן הַמּוֹחַ, שֶׁבּוֹ מִתְלַבֵּשׁ הָרָצוֹן לְהַטוֹת הָאֵבֶר כְּפִי הַנָּאוֹת בִּרְצוֹנוֹ כו׳.

כָּהְ הַמִּצְוֹת הֵן אֵיבָרִים וְכֵלִים שֶׁבָּהֶם מִתְלַבֵּשׁ הָרָצוֹן הָעֶלְיוֹן, וְעַל־יְדֵי לִיּוּם הַמִּצְוֹת נִמְשֶׁךְ וּמִתְגַּלֶּה הָרָצוֹן הָעֶלְיוֹן כו׳.

וְלָכֵן אַחַר שָׁאָמַר "וְאָהַבְתָּ בְּכָל לְבָבְהְּ" כו׳ בִּמְסִירַת נָּשְׁשׁ כַּנַּ"ל—אָז אַחַר־כָּהְ יּוּכַל לוֹמַר: "וְהָיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּהּ"—שֶׁהוּא עִנְיַן הַמְשָׁכוֹת אֱלוּקוּת: "אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי"—מִי שֶׁ"אֲנֹכִי", עַצְמוּתוֹ יִתְבָּרַהְ—"מְצַוְּךְּ", לְשׁוֹן הָתַקַשְׁרוּת, וְלֹא מִבְּחִינַת שֵׁם בַּלְבַד

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My very Essence—"command you," a language of connection, and not merely from the level of His name alone.

And so too is the concept in "And it shall come to pass if you listen..." that follows afterward: "Blessed are You..." as explained above.

And this is the concept of the ascent of the souls after their descent from their hewn source—for originally they were on the level of "letters" and "names" only.

But now, through their descent into this world, they are elevated into the Essence of the Infinite One, blessed be He, the one who surrounds [all worlds], etc.

And behold, the explanation of "And you shall love Hashem your G-d with all your heart" is the idea of love and yearning for the revelation of G-dliness—through the earlier meditation on the six words of "Shema" and the six words of "Baruch shem keyod malchuso..." etc.

And to understand this, and the concept of "with all your heart," etc., the explanation is: that the meaning of "And you shall love Hashem your G-d" is that there should be a revelation of G-dliness, to the point that "Hashem" will be *your* G-d—truly yours.

And where should this revelation be?—"With all your heart," meaning in the heart, which has two chambers: the right chamber is full of life-force, and the left chamber is full of blood—and in both of these chambers G-dliness will be revealed.

That is, that both chambers of the heart should be filled with service of Hashem—each one according to its level and nature.

And the explanation of this is: that the left chamber, which is full of blood, is the aspect of Gevuros (severity), which is the aspect of bitterness—over the depth of his descent from the light of Hashem's presence, and his entrenchment in matters of this world that are not for Hashem.

וְכֵן הוּא עִנְיַן "וְהָיָה אִם שָׁמוֹעַ" שֶׁאַחַר־כָּךְ: "בָּרוּךְ אַתַּה" כו׳ כַּנַּ"ל

וְזֶהוּ עִנְיַן עֲלִיֵּת הַנְּשָׁמוֹת אַחַר יְרִידָתָן מִמְּקוֹר הָצוּכָם—שֶׁמִּקוֹדֶם הָיוּ בִּבְחִינַת "מוֹחַ שׁוּב"—בְּחִינַת אוֹתיוֹת וִשׁמוֹת בּלִבד.

אָבָל עַכְשָׁיו, עַל־יְדִי יְרִידָתָן בָּעוֹלָם הַגָּה—מִתְעַלּוֹת בָּעַצְמוּת אֵין־סוֹף בָּרוּדְ־הוּא הַ"סוֹבַב" כו׳.

וְהָבֵּה פֵּירוּשׁ "וְאָהַבְתָּ אֵת ה׳ אֱלֹקֶיךְּ בְּכָל לְבָבְדִּ"—שֶׁהוּא עִנְיֵן הָאַהְבָה וְהַתְּשׁוּקָה לְהִיוֹת גִּלּוּי אֱלוּקוּת—עַל־יְדֵי הִתְבּוֹנְנוּת שֶׁמִּקוֹדֶם בְּשֵׁשׁ תֵּיבוֹת דְ"שְׁמַע", וְשֵׁשׁ תֵּיבוֹת דְ"בָּרוּךְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ" כו׳

וּלְהָבִין זֶה, וְעִנְיַן "בְּכֶל לְבָבָדְ" כו׳—הָעִנְיָן הוּא: דְּהַפֵּירוּשׁ "וְאָהַבְתָּ אֵת ה׳ אֱלֹקֶידְ"—שִׁיִּהְיָה גִּלוּי אֱלֹקִידְ" שֶׁלְּדְ מַמְּשׁ.." יְהִיָה "אֱלֹקִידְ" שֶׁלְּדְּ מַמְּשׁ...

וְהֵיכָן יִהְיֶה הַגִּלּוּי לָזֶה? אָמַר: "בְּכָל לְבָבְהּ"—כִּי בַּלֵב יֵשׁ שְׁנֵי חֲלָלִים: הַחָלָל הַיְּמְנִי מֻלֵּא רוּחַ חַיִּים, וְהַחָלֶל הַשְּׁמָאלִי מָלֵא דָּם—וּבִשְׁנֵי חֲלָלִים אֵלּוּ יִתְגַּלְה בַהָּם אֱלוּקוּתוֹ יִתִּבַּרְהְּ

דְהַיְנוּ, שֶׁיָּהְיוּ שְׁנֵי הַחֲלֶלִים מְמֻלָּאִים בַּעֲבוֹדַת ה׳, לְכָל אֶחָד וְאֶחָד כְּפִי עֶרְכּוֹ וּמַהוּתוֹ.

ּוּבֵיאוּר זֶה הוּא: כִּי הָנֵּה חָלֶל הַשְּׂמָאלִי הַמְּלֵא דָּם, הוּא בְּחִינַת גְּבוּרוֹת, וְהַיִינוּ בְּחִינַת מְרִירוּת עַל עֹצֶם יְרִידָתוֹ מֵאוֹר פְּנֵי ה׳, וְהִשְׁתַּקְעוּתוֹ בְּעִנְיָנֵי עוֹלָם הַוָּה אֲשֶׁר לֹא לָה׳ הַמַּה.

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And the right chamber, full of ruach chaim (spirit of life), is the aspect of Chassadim (kindnesses)—that is, the joy of a mitzvah: "Yisrael rejoices in its Maker."	וְחָלָל הַיְּמָנִי מָלֵא רוּחַ חַיִּים—בְּחִינַת חֲסָדִים—הַיְינוּ בְּחַיֵּי שִׂמְחַת שֶׁל מִצְוָה: "יִשְׂרָאֵל יִשְׂמַח בְּעוֹשָׂיו".
These are the mitzvos that are clothed in action, in which one rejoices due to the revelation of G-dliness that is drawn down through them—since they are the limbs of the King.	הֵם בְּחִינַת הַמִּצְוֹת שֶׁנְּתְלַבְּשׁוּ בַּצְשִׂיָּה, שֶׁשָּׂמֵחַ בָּהֶם מִצַד גִּלּוּי אֱלּוּקוּת הַנִּמְשֶׁךְ עַל־יְדֵי כו׳—שֶׁהֵם אֵיכָרִים דְּמַלְכָּא.
And even though the revelation is not now, only in the future—it is currently just a drawing down and still hidden until the future, as is known regarding the verse: "He sows righteousness and causes salvation to sprout."	וְאַף שֶׁאֵין הַגִּלּוּי עַתָּה רַק לֶעָתִיד לָבוֹא, רַק עַתָּה הִיא הַהַמְשָׁכָה, וְעֲדֵין הִיא בְּהֶעְלֵם עַד לֶעָתִיד לָבוֹא, וֹרְיָדוּעַ בִּפֵּירוּשׁ: "זוֹרֵעַ צְדָקוֹת וּמַצְמִיחַ יְשׁוּעוֹת".
For now is the sowing of the mitzvos, which are all called by the name tzedakah, and in the future will be the growth and the revelation.	שֶׁעַכְשָׁו הִיא הַזְּרִיעָה שֶׁל הַמִּצְוֹת, שֶׁכֵּלֶן נַקְרָאִים בְּשֵׁם "צְדָקָה", וְלֶעָתִיד לָבוֹא יִהְיֶה הַצְּמִיחָה וְהַהְתָּלּוֹת
And that is "yeshuos"—which implies turning and movement, like "Hashem turned (vayesheh)" (Bereishis 4) or shining of lights, etc.	וְזֶהוּ: "יְשׁוּעוֹת", שֶׁהוּא עִנְיַן פְּנִיָּה וְהַטָּיָה, כְּמוֹ "וַיִּשֵׁע ה׳" (בראשית ד), שֶׁעֶ"ה נְהוֹרִין כו׳.
Nevertheless, joy is possible even now, since the drawing down is taking place now—therefore one rejoices about the future revelation.	מְכֶּל־מֶקוֹם יִתָּכֵן גַּם עַתָּה הַשִּׂמְחָה, מֵאַחַר שֶׁהַהַמְשָׁכָה הִיא עַכְשָׁו, לָכֵן שָׁמֵחַ בָּהֶם עַל שֵׁם הַגִּלוּי שֶׁיִּהְיֶה לֶעָתִיד לָבוֹא.
And this is like someone who has jewels in his pocket, and rejoices over them even when he doesn't actually see them—since he is confident that they are in his hand and when he takes them out, he will see and delight in them.	ְוָהַרֵי זֶה כְּמוֹ מִי שֶׁבְּכִיסוֹ מֵרְגָּלִיּוֹת, שֶׁשָּׁמֵחַ בָּהֶם אַף גַם בִּשְׁעָה שֶׁאֵינוֹ רוֹאָה אוֹתָם בְּפֹעַל, אַחַר שֶׁמוּבְטָח לוֹ בָּהֶם שָׁיַשְׁנָם בְּיָדוֹ, וּכְשֶׁיוֹצִיאֵם יִרְאֵם וְיִתְעַנֵּג מֵהֶם
So too is the joy of a mitzvah in the right chamber of the heart—even though there is still no revelation of G-dliness at all, and on the contrary, he may be in a state of bitterness over his soul's descent, etc.—still, there should be joy from the mitzvos, which are the drawing down of the Infinite One, and in the future the revelation will come, etc.	ְּוְכֵן כָּךְ הוּא עִנְיֵן שִּׁמְחַת הַמִּצְוָה בַּחָלֶל הַיְּמָנִי שֶׁבַּלֵּב, אַף שֶׁצְדַיִן אֵינוֹ כְּלֶל גִּלוּי אֱלוּקוּת, וְאַדַּרְבָּא הָבִי הוּא בִּבְחִינַת מְרִירוּת מִצֵּד יְרִידַת נַפְשׁוֹ כו׳, מִכָּל־מָקוֹם תִּהְיֶה הַשִּׂמְחָה מִן הַמִּצְוֹת, שֶׁהֵן הַמְשָׁכוֹת אֵין־סוֹף בָּרוּךְ־הוּא, וּלֶעָתִיד לָבוֹא יִהְיֶה הַגִּלוּי כו׳.
And behold, bitterness and joy do not contradict each other at all—for the bitterness is about his descent into the physicality of this world from his own perspective, and the joy is from the mitzvos, which are His Will.	ְוָהְנֵּה הַמְּרִירוּת וְהַשִּׂמְחָה אֵינָם סוֹתְרִים זֶה אֶת זֶה כְּלֶל, כִּי הֲרֵי הַמְּרִירוּת הִיא עַל יְרִידָתוֹ בַּחַמְרִיוּת דְעוֹלָם הַזֶּה מִצֵּד עַצְמוֹ, וְהַשִּׁמְחָה הִיא מִן הַמִּצְוֹת שָׁהֵן רְצוֹנוֹ יִתְבָּרַךְּ

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And this is: "joy is implanted in my heart on this side, and weeping on this side." And on the contrary, the more bitterness there is from the descent and lack of revelation, the greater the advantage of the joy afterward in fulfilling the mitzvos, etc. And this is enough for the understanding.

ְוֶזֶהוּ: "חַדְוֶה תְּקִיעָא בְּלִבָּאִי בִּסְטֵר דָּא, וּבֶכִי בִּסְטֵר דָּא", וְאָדַרְבָּא, כָּל שָׁתִּהְיֶה הַמְּרִירוּת יוֹתֵר מִן הַיְרִידָה וְהָעְדֵּר הַגִּלוּי—אָז יִהְיֶה יִתְרוֹן הַשִּׂמְחָה אַחַר כָּךְ בְּקִיּוּם הַמִּצְוֹת כו׳, וְדֵּי לַמֵּבִין.

And this is the meaning of "And you shall love Hashem your G-d with all your heart"—that there should be a revelation of His G-dliness in both chambers of the heart—that is, in that both of them will be filled with service of Hashem, each chamber according to its nature and level—this one in the aspect of Gevuros, and this one in the aspect of Chassadim—and likewise, in every individual, according to his own level, as explained elsewhere.

ְזֶהוּ פֵּירוּשׁ: "וְאָהַרְתָּ אֵת ה׳ אֱלֹקֵיךְ בְּכָל לְבָרְדִּ"—שֶׁיִּהְיָה גִּלּוּי אֱלוּקוּתוֹ יִתְבָּרַךְ בִּשְׁנִי חֲלָלֵי הַלֵּב, דְּהַיִינוּ בְּמַה שֶׁיִּהְיוּ שְׁנֵיהֶם מְלֵאִים בַּעֲבוֹדַת ה׳, כָּל חָלָל מֵהֶם כְּפִי בְּחִינַת וֹמְדְרֵגָתוֹ—זֶה בִּרְחִינַת גְבוּרוֹת, וְזֶה בִּבְחִינַת חֲסָדִים—וְגַם בְּכָל אִישׁ וְאִישׁ לִפִי עֶרְכּוֹ, כַּמְּשְׁכָּתָב בְּמָקוֹם אַחֵר

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However, all this is when things are as they should be—when one truly serves Hashem, such that there is bitterness and joy, "joy from this side," etc.

But when it is not so, then the two chambers of the heart mentioned above are not filled with service of Hashem. Rather, the opposite—they are filled with desires for this world.

The bitterness in the left chamber is over worldly matters—lack of children, health, and livelihood, etc.

And the joy in the right chamber comes from success in desires of this world.

And this is the concept of exile and the subjugation of the nations: that he is enslaved within both chambers of the heart, such that they are filled with foreign desires which are not for Hashem—where bitterness is over lacking them, and joy is in having them.

And on this the prophet said: "Zion shall be redeemed with justice, and her returnees with righteousness." "Zion" means a sign, as in the verse "Set for yourself markers..." "Where is the sign?" etc.

And this is the level of the inner heart, which is the level of natural love and the hidden love within the heart of every Jew.

אֲבָל הָנֵּה כָּל זֶה הוּא בִּזְמֵן שָׁהוּא כְּפִי הָרָאוּי, כְּשֶׁעוֹבֵד ה' בָּאֱמֶת, לְהִיוֹת בְּמְרִירוּת וּבְשִׂמְחָה—"חַדְוָה מִסְטֵר דָּא" כו׳.

אֲכָל כְּשֶׁאֵינוֹ כֵּן, וְאָז שְׁנֵי חֲלָלֵי הַלֵּב הַנַּ"ל אֵינָם מְלֵאִים בַּעֲבוֹדַת ה׳, אֶלָּא נֶהֶפָּךְ הוּא—שֶׁהֵם מְלֵאִים בָּתַאֲווֹת עוֹלָם הַזֶּה.

שֶׁהַמְּרִירוּת שֶׁבַּחָלֶל הַשְּׂמָאלִי הִיא בְּעַנְיָנֵי עוֹלֶם הַזָּה—בְּהָעְדֵּר "בָּנִי", "חַיֵּי", וּ"מְזוֹנַי" וְכַיּוֹצֵא. וְכֵן הַשִּׂמְחָה שֶׁבַּחָלֶל הַיְּמְנִי הִיא מִשְׁלֵימוּתוֹ בִּתְאוַות

עוֹלָם הַזָּה.

וְזֶהוּ עִנְיֵן הַגָּלוּת וְשִׁעְבּוּד מַלְכִיּוֹת—שֶׁנִּשְׁתַּעְבֵּד בִּשְׁנֵי חַלְלֵי הַלֵּב לְהִיוֹת מְלֵאִים בִּרְצוֹנוֹת אֲחֵרִים אֲשֶׁר לֹא לַה׳ הַמָּה, שֶׁבָּהֶם יִהְיֶה הַצַּעַר מֵהֶעְדָּרָן, וְהַשִּׁמְחָה מִשְׁלֵימוּתָם כו׳.

וְעַל זֶה אָמַר הַנָּבִיא: "צִּיּוֹן בְּמִשְׁפָּט תִּפָּדָה וְשָׁבֵיהָ בִּצְדַקָה". "צִיּוֹן" הִיא לְשׁוֹן סִימָן, כְּמוֹ: "הַצִּיבִי לָךְ צִיּוּנִים" כו׳, "אָנָא סִימָנָא" כו׳.

וְהוּא בְּחִינַת פְּנִימִיוּת הַלֵּב—שֶׁהוּא בְּחִינַת הָאַהְבָה הַטִּבְעִית, וְהָאַהָבָה הַמְּסוּתֶּרֶת בְּלֵב אִישׁ יִשְׂרְאֵל.

Tzemach Tzedek Ohr HaTorah Parshas Devarim ציוֹן בִּמִשׁבַּט תִּבָּדָה וְשַׁבִיהָ בִּצְדָקָה

And even that is in exile, as it is written: "All her glory has	
departed from the daughter of Zion."	

"She shall be redeemed with justice"—this refers to the halachos of Torah, as the Targum says on the verse "Like the former ordinance," meaning like the early halachah, etc.

And as our Sages said: "The exiles are gathered only through the merit of learning Mishnayos," as it says: "Though they give among the nations, now I will gather them," etc.

"Her captives" refers to the two chambers of the heart, which are the captives of Zion, who were taken from her. But Zion herself is not in the category of captivity—for she did not go into exile; rather, all her glory descended from her, etc.

And *they* (the two chambers) will be redeemed through tzedakah.

The idea is: that the two chambers of the heart are actual captives, who left one domain and entered another—for originally, the bitterness and the joy were in service of Hashem...

And now they have left His domain and entered entirely under another domain, for the bitterness and the joy are in the desires of this world.

The bitterness that was fitting to be over one's distance from Hashem has now, to the contrary, become over worldly lack.

And the joy that should have been from mitzvos is now in worldly desires.

They are like actual captives who have entered and become enslaved under another domain.

But the level of Zion, which is the inner aspect of the heart—the natural, hidden love in the heart of a Jew—has not entered under another domain.

Such that this love would come to be present in the form of worldly desires—for it has no counterpart at all in the kelipos.

As David HaMelech, peace be upon him, said: "Save my solitary one from lions," etc.

וְגַם הִיא בַּגָּלוּת, כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב: "וַיֵּצֵא (וַיֵּרֵד) מִבַּת צִיּוֹן כַּל הַדַרַה.".

תִּפֶּדֶה בְּמִשְׁפָּט"—הוּא בְּחִינֵת הֲלֶכוֹת הַתּוֹרָה," כְּדַתְּ"א עַל הַפָּסוּק: "כַּמִשְׁפָּט הָרָאשׁוֹן"—"כְּהִלְכְּתָא קַדְמָאִיתָא" כו׳.

וּכְמוֹ שֶׁאָמְרוּ רַבּוֹתֵינוּ זִכְרוֹנָם לִבְרָכָה: "אֵין הַגָּלוּיוֹת מִתְכַּנְּסוֹת אֶלָּא בִּזְכוּת הַמִּשְׁנִיוֹת", שֶׁנָּאֱמֵר: "גַּם כִּי יִתָּנוּ בַגוֹיִם עֲתַּה אֲקַבָּצֵם" כו׳.

ְוְשֶׁבֶיהָ" הֵינֵּה שְׁנֵי חֲלָלֵי הַלֵּב, שֶׁהֵם הַשְּׁבוּיִים שֶׁל" "צִיּוֹן", שֶׁנִּשְׁבּוּ מִמֶּנָּה. אֲבָל "צִיּוֹן" עַצְמָה אֵינָה בִּבְחִינַת שְׁבוּיָה—שֶׁהָרֵי לֹא הָלְכָה בַגָּלוּת—רַק .שֵׁיַרִד מִמֵּנַה כֵּל הַדָּרָה כו׳

וְהַמָּה יִפָּדוּ בִּצְדָקָה.

וְהָעִנְיָן: כִּי שְׁנֵי חֲלָלֵי הַלֵּב הֵם שְׁבוּיִים מַמְּשׁ, שֶׁיָּצְאוּ מֵךְשׁוּת לְּרְשׁוּת אֲחֵר כו׳, שֶׁמְקּוֹדֶם הָיְתָה הַמְּרִירוּת ...וְהַשִּׁמְחָה בַּעֲבוֹדַת ה׳

וְעַכְשָׁוֹ הָרֵי יָצְאוּ מֵרְשׁוּתוֹ וְנִכְנְסוּ תַּחַת רְשׁוּת אַחֵר מַמָּשׁ, שֶׁהָרֵי הַמְּרִירוּת וְהַשִּׁמְחָה הֵם בִּתְאוַוֹת עוֹלָם הַזֵּה.

שֶׁהַמְּרִירוּת שֶׁהָיָה רָאוּי לְהִיוֹת עַל רִיחוּקוֹ מֵה׳, עַתָּה נָהֱפַךְ הוּא לְהִיוֹת עַל חֶסְרוֹנוֹתֵי הָעוֹלָם הַזֶּה.

וְכֵן הַשִּּמְחָה שֶׁהָיְתָה רְאוּיָה לְהִיוֹת מִן הַמִּצְוֹת, עַתָּה הִיא בְּתָאוֵוֹת עוֹלָם הַזָּה.

וְהָרֵי הֵם כְּשְׁבוּיִים מַמָּשׁ, שֶׁנִּכְנָסוּ וְנִשְׁתַּעַבְּדוּ תַּחַת רָשׁוּת אַחַר כו׳.

אֲכָל בְּחִינַת "צִּיּוֹן", שֶׁהִיא בְּחִינַת פְּנִימִיּוּת הַּלֵּב, שֶׁהִיא בְּחִינַת הָאַהָּבָה הַטִּבְעִית הַמְּסוּשֶּׁרֶת בְּלֵב אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, לֹא נִכְנְסָה תַּחַת רְשׁוּת אַחֵר.

שֶׁתִּהֶיֶה בְּחִינַת אַהַבָּה זוֹ נִמְצֵאת בְּבְחִינַת תַּאֲווֹת הָעוֹלָם הַזֶּה, כִּי אֵין לָה לְעוּמֵת זֶה כְּלָל בַּקְלִיפּוֹת.

כְּמוֹ שֶׁאָמַר דָּוִד הַמֶּלֶךְ עָלָיו הַשָּׁלוֹם: "הַצִּילָה מַכָּפִירִים יָחִידַתִי" כו׳.

צִּיוֹן בְּמִשְׁפָּט תִּפָּדֶה וְשָׁבֶיהָ בִּצְּדָקָה

Only that all her glory has descended, and she does not shine openly with self-sacrifice for her Father in Heaven. Rather, she is hidden and concealed.	רַק שֶׁיָרַד מִמֶּנָּה כָּל הָדָרָה, שֶׁלֹּא תִּהְיֶה מֵאִירָה בְּגִילּוּי לְהִיוֹת בִּבְחִינַת מְסִירַת נֶפֶשׁ לַאֲבִיהָ שֶׁבַּשָּׁמֵיִם, רַק תִּהְיֶה מְסוּתֶּרֶת וּנְעֶלֶמֶת כו׳.
Nevertheless, she has not left His domain entirely to be under another domain—for even the lightest Jew can give up his life for the sanctification of Hashem's Name.	אֲבָל וּמִכָּל מָקוֹם לֹא יָצְאָה מֵרְשׁוּתוֹ לְגַמְרֵי לִהְיוֹת תַּחַת רְשׁוּת אַחַר, שֶׁהָרֵי אָפִלוּ קַל שֶׁבְּקַלִּים יָכוֹל לָמְסוֹר נַפְשׁוֹ עַל קִדּוּשׁ הַשֵּׁם.
Because of the natural love within him, which is exclusively for Hashem—just that it is hidden. But when it is aroused to that level, he will give his life, etc.	מִפְּנֵי הָאַהֲבָה הַטִּבְעִית שֶׁבּוֹ, שֶׁהִיא לַה׳ לְבַדּוֹ, רַק שָׁהִיא בְּהֶעְלֵם. אֲבָל כְּשֶׁיָגִיעַ לְמִדָּה זוֹ, אָז יִמְסוֹר נַפְשׁוֹ כו׳.
Therefore she is called "Zion," from the word meaning sign—she is a testimony and sign within the Jewish people that they are the people of Hashem, giving their lives in opposition to Him (i.e., against the nations).	וְלָכֵן נִקְרַאת "צִּיּוֹן", לְשׁוֹן סִימָן, שֶׁהִיא בְּחִינַת עֵדוּת וְסִימָן בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל עַל הֱיוֹתָם עַם ה׳, לִמְסוֹר נַפְשָׁם נֶגֶד ה׳
And her lamp will never be extinguished completely, etc.	וּלְעוֹלָם לֹא תִכְבֶּה וֵרָה לְגַמְרֵי כו׳.
Therefore she is redeemed "with justice"—that is, through the study of Torah, which is supernal wisdom in which the Essence of the Infinite One, blessed be He, shines.	ְלָכֵן תִּפֶּדֶה בְּמִשְׁפָּט, שֶׁהוּא בְּחִינַת עֵסֶק הַתּוֹרָה, שֶׁהִיא בְּחִינַת חָכְמָה עִילָּאָה שֶׁמֵאִיר בָּה עַצְמוּת אוֹר־אֵין־סוֹף בָּרוּךְ הוּא הַפָּשׁוּט.
And through Torah study, the soul—which is also a simple essence—is bound to the simple Essence of the Infinite One that is clothed in Torah, etc.	וְעַל־יְדֵי עֵסֶק הַתּוֹרָה, אָזִי מִתְקַשֶּׁרֶת נַפְשׁוֹ, שֶׁהִיא גַם כֵּן עֶצֶם פָּשׁוּט, בְּעַצְמוּת אוֹר־אֵין־סוֹף בָּרוּךְ הוּא הַפָּשׁוּט בִּתְבֵלֶת הַפְּשִׁיטוּת הַמְּלוּבָּשׁ בַּתּוֹרָה כו׳.
Then she will awaken from her sleep and the inner love will be revealed to Hashem.	וְאָזִי תִּהְיֶה "חוֹזֵר וְנִיעוֹר" מִשְׁנָתָהּ, לִהְיוֹת פְּנִימִיּוּת הָאַהֲבָה בְּגִילּוּי לַה׳ כו׳.
And this is what our Sages said: "The light within it brings them back to good"—the light within it specifically, etc., as explained elsewhere.	ְוָזָהוּ שֶׁאָמְרוּ רַזָ"ל: "הַפָּאוֹר שֶׁבָּה הָיָה מַחַזִּירָן לְמוּטָב"——"הַפָּאוֹר שֶׁבָּה" דַּוְקָא כו׳, וּכְמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב בְּמָקוֹם אַחֵר.
And this is what is written: "For the Torah is light," etc.	ַן זֶהוּ שֶׁכָּתוּב: "כִּי נֵר מִצְוָה וְתוֹרָה אוֹר" כוי.
But "her captives with righteousness"—these are the two chambers of the heart that entered under another domain and became enslaved to the kelipos.	אֲכָל "שָׁכֶיהָ בִּצְדָקָה"—דְּהַיִינוּ שְׁנֵי חֲלָלֵי הַלֵּב, שָׁנְּכְנְסוּ תַּחַת רְשׁוּת אֲחֵר וְנִשְׁתַּעַבְּדוּ בָּהֶן הַקְּלִיפּוֹת.
And Torah does not help awaken them, as it does for the level of Zion and the inner heart—because she was not enslaved to the kelipos, only asleep, etc.	וְאֵין הַתּוֹרָה מוֹעֶלֶת לָהֶם לְעוֹרְרָם, כְּמוֹ שֶׁהִיא מוֹעֶלֶת לִבְּחִינַת צִיּוֹן וּפְנִימִיּוּת הַלֵּב, לְפִי שֶׁלֹא נִשְׁתַּעַבְּדָה לַקְלִיפּוֹת—רַק הִיא בִּבְחִינַת שֵׁנָה בִּלְבַד כו׳.

Tzemach Tzedek Ohr HaTorah Parshas Devarim ציוֹן בִּמִשׁבָּט תִּבָּדָה וְשַׁבֵּיהָ בִּצְדָקָה

But these (chambers) were truly ensured and are carred
captives, etc.
Nevertheless, they too will be redeemed through tzedakah—for
tzedakah is compassion for the poor, who is called "dead," in
order to give him life.

But these (chambers) were truly enslaved and are called

And measure for measure, this arouses above great mercy to extract them from the prison of the kelipos—those who in their lifetime are called dead, etc.

As it is written: "In Your great mercy, have mercy upon us and place understanding in our hearts." What is the effect of this mercy? To place understanding in our hearts.

And it is known that "Binah is the heart"—meaning revelation of the heart, which is the two chambers of the heart.

Through arousing great supernal mercy upon him from above by giving tzedakah and having mercy on the poor below, he is given Binah.

And through Binah, and "Binah is the heart," the two chambers of the heart are aroused, exiting the prison of the kelipos to be filled with the service of Hashem, as mentioned above. And that is the meaning.

ריים" כוי מָפֶּשׁ, וְנִקְרָאוּ "שְׁבוּיִים" כוי אַבָּל אֵלוּ נִשְׁתַעַבְּדוּ מַפֶּשׁ,

וְאַף עַל פִּי כֵן, גַּם הֵם יִפָּדוּ עַל יְדֵי הַצְּדָקָה, כִּי הַצְּדָקָה הִיא בְּחִינַת רַחֲמִים עַל הֶעָנִי, שֶׁנִּקְרָא "מֵת", לָהַחֵיוֹתוֹ.

וּמִדָּה כְּנֶגֶד מִדָּה, נִתְעוֹרֵר מִלְמַעְלָה גַּם כֵּן בְּחִינַת "רַחֲמִים רַבִּים", לְהוֹצִיאָם מִמַּאֲסַר הַקְּלִיפּוֹת, שַׁבָּחַיִּיהָם קרוּיִים "מַתִים" כו׳.

וּכְמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב: "בְּרַחֲמֶיךּ הָרַבִּים רַחֵם עָלֵינוּ, וְתֵּן בְּלְבֵּנוּ בִּינָה"—שֶׁמֵּה יִהְיֶה פְּעוּלַת הָרַחֲמִים? לָזֶה "אֵמֵר: "לַתַת בָּלבֵּנוּ בִּינַה

ְנְנוֹדֵע דְּ"בִינָה לְבָּא"—וְהַיְינוּ בְּחִינַת הָתְגַּלוּת לְבּוֹ, .שָׁהוּא בִּחִינַת שָׁנֵי חַלָלִי הַלָּב

שָׁעַל־יְדֵי הָתְעוֹרְרוּת רַחֲמִים רַבִּים הָעֶלְיוֹנִים שָׁמִּתְעוֹרְרִים עָלָיו מִלְמֵעְלָה עַל־יְדֵי הַצְּדָקָה שֶׁמְרַחֵם הוּא עַל הָעָנִי לְמַטָּה—נָתַן בּוֹ בְּחִינַת בִּינָה.

וְעַל־יְדֵי הַבִּינָה—וּ"בִינָה לְבָּא"—מְתְעוֹרְרִים שְׁנֵי חַלָלֵי הַלֵּב, שָׁיֵּצְאוּ מִמַּאֲסַר הַקְּלִיפּוֹת, וְלִהְיוֹת מְלֵאִים בַּעֲבוֹדַת ה׳ כַּנַּ"ל. וְדוֹרֵשׁ לְעֵיל.

[NOTE Summary

The discourse begins with a foundational concept: "הודאה" (admission or acknowledgment) is a unique spiritual mode whereby a Jew accepts divine truth despite not grasping it intellectually or emotionally. It reflects a core emunah (faith) present in every Jew—even one who rebels against Hashem. This core belief enables one to acknowledge truth beyond reason, rooted in the soul's essential bond with the Infinite.

The Rebbe distinguishes between two spiritual states: hodaa (acknowledgment without grasp) and berachah (flow and manifestation). While hodaa comes from distance—admitting a truth one cannot internalize—berachah refers to divine revelation, where Elokus becomes real and felt, as if seen by the mind's eye.

Prayer (especially Shema and the Amidah) becomes the structure to move from hodaa to berachah—from distant belief to palpable G-dly experience. Through meditating on the Oneness of Hashem (Shema) and his kingship over both upper and lower worlds (Baruch Shem), one can awaken a deep ahavas Hashem—a fiery

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desire to cleave to Him. This love fuels the mitzvos, which are likened to limbs of the King through which His will flows

Through mitzvah observance, a Jew draws down not just spiritual light, but Atzmus Ein Sof—G-d's very essence, especially unique to this world. Unlike the World to Come (Olam HaBa), where elevation happens gradually and according to measure, this world allows for total transformation through teshuvah. Because this world is infused with the encompassing light of sovev kol almin, one can pivot from sin to sanctity in an instant.

The Rebbe emphasizes the duality of the heart—the left side, associated with bitterness over distance from G-d; and the right side, representing joy in mitzvah observance. The ideal is not choosing one over the other but integrating both: joy and bitterness, chesed and gevurah, in divine service.

But in exile, this structure collapses. The heart becomes captive—its emotions hijacked by material desire. Bitterness is felt over lack of comfort or status, and joy is found in worldly success. This is the true inner galus: the misplacement of the soul's energies.

Still, the core of the heart (Tzion) never falls into enemy hands. The natural love of a Jew for Hashem may go dormant but cannot be extinguished. Redemption of this essence—Tzion—is possible through Torah (mishpat), which illuminates the soul's inner light. But to free the outer layers—the captive emotions (sheviyah)—requires tzedakah, an act of kindness that arouses heavenly mercy to release those parts of the heart.

Tzedakah awakens divine compassion, which then "gives the heart understanding" (בינה ליבא)—restoring holy desire to both sides of the heart. The soul begins to feel again, and the heart, once captive, becomes a sanctuary.

Practical Takeaway

There are moments when our emotional life is enslaved—not devoted to Hashem, but to anxiety, ambition, or pleasure-seeking. Even our bitterness may be self-focused, and our joy detached from holiness.

This discourse teaches that **it's never too late to reclaim the heart**. Torah study reawakens our inner truth, and **tzedakah releases our emotional captivity**. Through a single act of generosity, one can awaken divine compassion that infuses the heart with clarity and holiness.

We don't need to be perfect to return. We just need to be honest—and generous.

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Chassidic Story

In the town of Lubavitch, a young man once came to the **Tzemach Tzedek** in tears. He had squandered years of his life in material pursuits and felt emotionally numb, unable to awaken any love or awe of Hashem. "Even my davening is dry," he wept. "I feel nothing."

The Rebbe gazed at him deeply and said, "If your heart is frozen, melt it with fire."

The chossid looked confused.

"Fire," said the Rebbe, "is **tzedakah**. Find someone poorer than you, sadder than you, more lost than you—and give. Not just money. Give your soul. In that moment, you'll feel your heart begin to beat again."

He went out and found a destitute man. He sat with him, cried with him, fed him. He returned to the Rebbe days later. "Rebbe," he said, "I don't know what happened... but I can daven again."

(Source: Shmuos V'Sippurim, vol. 1; also paraphrased in Igros Kodesh Admur HaTzemach Tzedek, vol. 8)

END NOTE