

Introduction

This deeply layered discourse by the Alter Rebbe explores the verse "וְיָדַעָּהָ הַּיֹּם וַהְשֵׁבֹתְ אֶל לְבָבֶּךְ"—"And you shall know today and take to heart..." Drawing from Kabbalistic and Chassidic foundations, the maamar contrasts two modes of Divine consciousness: *Memale Kol Almin* (the indwelling light that fills all worlds) and *Sovev Kol Almin* (the transcendent light that surrounds all worlds). Through this lens, the Alter Rebbe addresses the tension between knowledge (אמונה) and faith (אמונה), showing how the ultimate redemption and spiritual clarity come not merely through intellectual understanding but through the deep integration of transcendent Divine truth into the heart and soul.

The Alter Rebbe—Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi (1745–1812), founder of Chabad-Lubavitch—was a disciple of the Maggid of Mezritch and the principal architect of the Chabad school of thought. His works emphasize clarity of thought, the role of the intellect in serving God, and the unification of emotion with Divine understanding.

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And you shall know today and take it to your heart, etc. Behold, we must understand: was it not already stated, "You have been shown to know," etc.? So what does it mean again to say, "And you shall know," and what is meant by "today"?	וְיָדַשְּתָּ הַיּוֹם וַהָּשֵׁבֹתָ אֶל לְבָבֶּדְּ וְגו׳. הָנֵּה יֵשׁ לְהָבִין הָלֹא כְבָר נָאֱמֵר אַתָּה הָרְאֵתָ לְדַעַת וְגו׳. וּמֵהוּ עוֹד וְיָדַעְתָּ גַּם מֵהוּ הַיּוֹם.
But behold, after the giving of the Torah, when they saw face to face and heard with their own ears the Ten Commandments, they said: "If we continue to hear, etc., we will die—come near, you and hear," etc.	אֲבָל הָנֵה אַחַר מַתַּן תּוֹרָה שֶׁרָאוּ פָּנִים אֶל פָּנִים וְשָׁמְעוּ בְּעַצְמָם עֲשֶׂרֶת הַדִּבְּרוֹת אָמְרוּ אִם יוֹסְפִּים אַנַחְנוּ לִשְׁמֹעַ וְגו׳ קָרַב אַתָּה וּשְׁמַע וְגו׳.
And the Holy One, blessed be He, agreed with them and said, "They have done well in all that they have spoken," etc. "Go say to them," etc. And it is written, "And this is the commandment," etc., "to perform in the land," etc., "a land flowing with milk and honey."	ְהַקָּב״ה הִסְכִּים עַל יְדֵיהֶם וְאָמֵר הֵיטִיבוּ כָּל אֲשֶׁר דְּבֵּרוּ וְגו׳ לֵדְ אֱמוֹר לָהֶם וְגו׳. וּכְתִיב וְזֹאת הַמִּצְוָה וְגו׳ לַעֲשׂוֹת בָּאָרֶץ וְגו׳ עַד אֶרֶץ זָבַת חָלָב וּדְבַשׁ.
And afterward it is written, "Hear O Israel, Hashem is our God, Hashem is one," and "You shall love," etc.—this being the first commandment they were given after the Ten Commandments from the mouth of Moshe.	וּכְתִיב בַּתְבֵיה שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל ה׳ אֱלֹקֵינוּ ה׳ אֶחָד וְאָהַבְתָּ וְגו׳ שֶׁהִיא הַמִּצְוָה הָרִאשׁוֹנָה שֶׁנִּצְטַווּ אַחַר עֲשֶׂרֶת הַדְּבְּרוֹת מִפִּי מֹשֶׁה.
And we must understand why it says first, "And this is the commandment to perform in the land," etc., for the passage	וְצָרִידְּ לְהָבִין לָמָּה הָקְדִּים לוֹמַר וְזֹאת הַמִּצְוָה וְגו׳ לַצְשׁוֹת בָּאָרֶץ וְגו׳ דַּהָוָא פָּרָשַׁת שְׁמַע חוֹבַת הַגּוּף הִיא וְנוֹהָגֶת בֵּין בָּאָרֶץ כו׳.

of Shema is a personal obligation and applies both in the land, etc.

And to understand all this, it is necessary to first explain the concept of daas (knowledge) and the concept of emunah (faith), which are two distinct commandments.	וּלְהָבִין כָּל זֶה צָרִיךְּ לְהַקְדִּים בֵּיאוּר עִנְיַן דַּעַת וְעִנְיַן אֱמוּנָה שֶׁהֵם שְׁתֵּי מִצְווֹת.
For behold, it is written: "Know the God of your father," etc. (Divrei HaYamim I 28:9), which refers to actual daas and comprehension. And similarly it is explained in the Shelah (in the section on the Ten Sayings, First Discourse).	כִּי הָנֵּה כְּתִיב דַּע אֵת אֱלֹקֵי אָבִיךְּ וְגו׳ (דְּבְרֵי הַיָּמִים א׳ כ״ח ט׳) (דְּר״ל בְּחִינַת דַּעַת וְהַשֶּׂגָה מַמֶּשׁ וְעַל דֶּרֶךְ זֶה פֵּירֵשׁ בִּשְׁל״ה בְּפֶרֶק בַּעֲשָׂרָה מַאֲמָרוֹת מַאֲמָר א׳.
And it is written, "And they believed in Hashem," and see also Midrash Rabbah on Beshalach ch. 23, on the verse "Teshuri me'rosh amanah," and in Shir HaShirim Rabbah on the verse "With me from Lebanon."	וְכְתִיב וַיִּאֲמִינוּ בַּה׳ (וְעַיֵּן בְּרַבָּה בְּשֵׁלֵח פּכ״ג עַל פָּסוּק הְשׁוּרִי מֵרֹאשׁ אֲמָנָה. וּבְשִׁיר הַשִּׁירִים רַבָּה בְּפָסוּק אָתִּי מִלְּבָנוֹן.
And the idea is that in truth, what the world refers to by the name "emunah"—to believe that the Holy One, blessed be He, sustains everything and that He created all the worlds from nothing to something—is a mistake. For this does not require emunah, because it is perceptible, like seeing. And though it is not seen with physical eyes, it is as if it is seen.	ְוָהָעִנְיֶן כִּי בָאֱמֶת זָה שֶׁהָעוֹלֶם קוֹרִין בְּשֵׁם אֱמוּנָה לְהַאֲמִין מֵה שֶׁהַקָּב״ה מְחַיֶּה אֶת כּוּלֶם הוּא בָּרָא אֶת כָּל הָעוֹלָמוֹת מֵאַיִן לְיֵשׁ טוֹעִים הֵם שֶׁאֵין צָרִיהְ לָזָה אֱמוּנָה שֶׁהָרֵי זָה נִרְגָּשׁ בִּבְחִינַת רְאִיָּה אַף שָׁאֵינוֹ רוֹאֶה בְּעֵינֵי בָשָׂר הָרֵי זָה כְּאִלוּ רוֹאֶה.
And about this it is said, "And from my flesh I shall perceive G-d" — perceive specifically.	ַרָקא אָחָזָה אֶלוּהַ אֶחָזָה אָלוּהַ אָחָזָה דַּיְקא.
And this is from my flesh: Just as in my own flesh, because he sees the life-force of the body and its existence, he knows and feels that his soul is within him — that it is the one that enlivens the body, and without it, there is no life or existence to the body —	ְהַיִינוּ מִבְשָּׂרִי שֶׁכְּמוֹ בִּבְשָׂרִי בִּשְׁבִיל שֶׁרוֹאֶה חַיּוּת הַגוּף וְקִיּוּמוֹ יוֹדֵעַ וּמַרְגִּישׁ כִּי נַפְשׁוֹ הִיא בּוֹ שֶׁהִיא הָיא הַמְחַיָּה אֶת הַגּוּף וּבִלְעָדֶיהָ אֵין חַיּוּת וְקִיּוּם גָגוּף
so too I perceive G-d: Since we see the worlds — which are like a great body, from the earth to the firmament is a distance of five hundred years' journey, etc. —	כַּן אֶחֶזָה אֱלוֹהַ מֵאַחַר שֶׁרוֹאִין אֶת הָעוֹלָמוֹת שֶׁהֵם כְּמוֹ גּוּף גָּדוֹל מֵהָאָרֶץ לָרָקִיעַ מַהְלַךְ ת״ק שָׁנָה כוי,
and even spiritual things such as angels and souls, etc., they are like a body relative to the vitality within them — from the Infinite One, blessed be He — Who brings them into being, enlivens them, and sustains them.	ְוְכֵן אֲפִלּוּ דְבָרִים רוּחָנִיִּים כְּמוֹ מַלְאָכִים וּנְשָׁמוֹת כו׳ הַן כְּגוּף לְגַבֵּי הַחַיּוּת שֶׁבְּתוֹכָם מֵאֵין־סוֹף בָּרוּך הוּא הַמְהַנֶּה וּמְחַיֶּה אוֹתָם וּמְקַיִּימָם,

As it is written, "Lift up your eyes on high and see who created these" (Yeshayahu 40:26), and this knowledge is felt as though one sees it.	ּכְמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב שְׂאוּ מָרוֹם עֵינֵיכֶם וּרְאוּ מִי בָרָא אֵלֶּה, וִידִיעָה זוֹ מֻרְגֶּשֶׁת כְּאִלּוּ רוֹאֶה כו׳.
And this is the meaning of the word "perceive" (אֶּהֵוָה). Therefore, this is not called by the name "faith" (אֲמוּנָה) in the Holy Tongue, but rather by the name "knowledge" (דַּעַת),	וְזָהוּ לָשׁוֹן אֶחֶזָה, וְלָכַן אֵין זָה נִקְרָא בְּשֵׁם אֱמוּנָה בְּלְשׁוֹן הַקֹּדָשׁ אֶלָּא בְּשֵׁם דַּעַת,
for "knowledge" is a term of recognition and feeling, and also "knowledge" is the deepening of the heart — that he should not divert his awareness from it, and it should be a remembrance before him always, so that he not forget and it not depart from his heart.	כִּי דַעַת הוּא לָשׁוֹן הַכָּרָה וְהַרְגָּשָׁה, וְגַם דַּעַת הוּא הַעֲמָקַת הַלֵּב שֶׁלֹּא יָסִיחַ דַּעְתוֹ מִנָּה וִיהָיָה לוֹ לְזִכָּרוֹן לְפָנָיו תָּמִיד שֶׁלֹא יִשְׁכַּח וְיָסוּר מִלְבּוֹ.
Unlike a mere thought, which accomplishes nothing, for a thought is not like speech.	מַשְׁאֵין כֵּן הָרְהוּר בְּעַלְמָא לָא עֲבִיד מִידִי, דְּהִרְהוּר לָאו כָּדִבּוּר דָּמֵי.
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But behold, this knowledge and feeling is in the category of <i>Memalei Kol Almin</i> (filling all worlds). (And therefore the category of Memalei Kol Almin is called <i>Alma d'Isgalya</i> — "the revealed world" — as explained in the discourse that begins "And I shall be sanctified among the Children of Israel.")	אך הָנֵה דַּעַת וְהַרְגָּשָׁה זוֹ הִיא בָּכְחִינַת מְמַלֵּא כָּל עָלְמִין (וְלָכֵן נִקְרֵאת בְּחִינַת מְמַכ״ע בְּשֵׁם עַלְמָא דְאָתְגַלְיָיא כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב בְּדִ״ה וְנִקְדַּשְׁתִּי בְּתוֹךְ (בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל,
But in the category of <i>Soveiv Kol Almin</i> it is written, "I, Havayah, have not changed" (Malachi 3:6), (see Zohar II end of Parshas Terumah 176a; III 137b), and "You are He before the world was created," etc. — that He is not within the realm of worlds at all, but only <i>Your Kingship alone</i> is the kingship of all the worlds,	אֲבָל בִּבְחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עָלְמִין כָּתוּב אֲנִי הוי׳ לֹא שָׁנִיתִי (וּרְאֵה זֹהַר חֵלֶק ב סוֹף פַּרְשַׁת תְּרוּמָה קע״ו א׳, ח״ג קל״ז ב׳) וְאַתָּה הוּא קֹדֶם שֶׁנִּבְרָא הָעוֹלֶם כו׳ שֶׁאֵינוֹ בִּגְדֶר עָלְמִין כְּלֶל רַק בְּחִינַת מַלְכוּתְךְּ ,לְבַדָּה הִיא מַלְכוּת כָּל עוֹלָמִים
meaning the radiance and reflection from the attribute of His Kingship, as is said in <i>Baruch Shem</i> : "the glory of His Kingship" — but not His Kingship itself.	דְהַיְינוּ בְּחִינַת זִיו וְהַאֶּרָה מִמְּדַת מַלְכוּתוֹ יִתְבָּרֵדְ כְּמַאֲמֶר בָּרוּדְ שֵׁם כְּבוֹד מַלְכוּתוֹ וְלֹא מַלְכוּתוֹ עַצְמָה
And about this our Sages said, "Before the world was created, there was only He and His Name alone" — meaning that even His Name, which is the attribute of Kingship, is in the category of "alone,"	וְעַל זֶה אָמְרוּ רַזַ״ל עַד שֶׁלֹּא נִבְרָא הָעוֹלָם הָיָה הוּא וּשְׁמוֹ בִּלְבַד, שָׁגַּם שְׁמוֹ הִיא מִדַּת מַלְכוּתוֹ הִיא בָּבְחִינַת לְבַדּוֹ

as it is written, "For His Name alone is exalted; His splendor and His radiance are upon the earth" (Tehillim 148:13). (See further on this in the discourses: "Therefore say to the Children of Israel," "Take from yourselves a terumah," "They shall bring royal garments," "When she came before the King," "Shir HaShirim," and "Kol Dodi.")	וּכְמוֹ שֶׁבָּתוּב כִּי נִשְׂגָב שְׁמוֹ לְבַדּוֹ רַק הוֹדוֹ וְזִיוּו שֶׁל שָׁמוֹ עַל אֶרֶץ כו׳ (וּרְאֵה מִזֶּה בְּדִ״ה לָכֵן אֱמוֹר לִבְנִי־יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבְדִ״ה קְחוּ מֵאִתְּכֶם תְּרוּמָה וּבְדִ״ה יָבִיאוּ לְבוּשׁ מַלְכוּת וּבְדִ״ה וּבְבֹאָה לִפְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ (וּבְדִ״ה שִׁיר הַשִּׁירִים וּבְדִ״ה קוֹל דוֹדִי,
And He, blessed be He, is called <i>Soveiv Kol Almin</i> because the worlds do not take up any space before Him —	וְנִקְרָא הוּא יִתְבָּרַךְ בְּשֵׁם סוֹבֵב כָּל עָלְמִין שֶׁאֵין הָעוֹלָמוֹת תּוֹפְסִים מָקוֹם נָגְדוֹ,
for His life-force that extends within the worlds is not like the soul that is actually enclothed within the body and affected by the conditions of the body and the conditions of place and time — cold and heat, etc.	שֶׁחַיּוּתוֹ הַמִּתְפַּשֵּׁט תּוֹךְ הָעוֹלְמוֹת אֵינוֹ כְּדְמְיוֹן הַנְּשָׁמָה הַמִּתְלַבֶּשֶׁת מַמָּשׁ תּוֹךְ הַגוּף וּמִתְפָּעֶלֶת מִמִּקְרֵי הַגוּף וּמִמָּקְרֵי הַמָּקוֹם וְהַזְּמֵן קוֹר וְחוֹם כוי,
But before Him, blessed be He — even though He is present below just as He is above — He is not confined within the limits of place (G-d forbid); above and below are equal.	אָבָל לְפָנָיו יִתְבָּרֵדְ אַף שֶׁנִּמְצָא לְמַטָּה כְּמוֹ לְמַעְּלָה אֵינוֹ נִתְפַּס בִּגְדֶר מָקוֹם ח״ו, וּמַעְלָה וּמַטָּה שָׁוִין.
And the meaning of <i>Soveiv Kol Almin</i> is not that He is only above the worlds — rather, He is found within the worlds as well, and nevertheless, He remains in the aspect of <i>Soveiv Kol Almin</i> .	וְאֵין הַפֵּרוּשׁ סוֹכ״ע שֶׁהוּא מָלְמַעְלָה מָן הָעוֹלָמוֹת בִּלְבָד, אֶלָּא הוּא נִמְצָא בְּתוֹךְ הָעוֹלָמוֹת גַּם כֵּן, וְאַף־עַל־פִּי־כֵן הוּא בִּבְחִינַת סוֹכ״ע,
And this is the meaning of "The Holy One in the heavens and on the earth" — for because He is holy and separate, He is in the aspect of <i>Soveiv Kol Almin</i> , therefore He is truly equal on the earth below as in the heavens above.	וְזֶהוּ וְהַקָּדוֹשׁ בַּשָּׁמִיִם וּבָאָרֶץ — שֶׁלְפִי שֶׁהוּא קָדוֹשׁ וּמוּבְדָּל, הוּא בִּבְחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עָלְמִין, לָכֵן הוּא שָׁוָה מַמָּשׁ בָּאָרֶץ מִתְּחַת כְּמוֹ בַּשָּׁמֵיִם מִמַּעַל,
(Whereas "the Great King" refers to the category of <i>Memalei Kol Almin</i> , the expansive greatness of His Kingship — for it is written "and of His greatness there is no investigation," and "a thousand thousands" See Zohar I 239a; Vayigash 206b; Vayechi 237a; III 191a.)	ְוָהַמֶּלֶּהְ הַגָּדוֹל הַיְינוּ בְּחִינַת מְמַלֵּא כָּל עָלְמִין,) הִתְפַּשְׁטוּת גְּדוּלַת מַלְכוּתוֹ יִתְבָּרֵה, כִּי וּלְגְדוּלָתוֹ אֵין חֵקֶר כָּתוּב, וְכָתוּב אֶלֶף אַלְפִּים כו׳, וּרְאֵה זֹהַר חֵלֶק א דַּרְל״ט א׳, וַיִּגַּשׁ דר״ו ע״ב, וַיְחִי דרל״ז א׳, חֵלֶק ג דקע״א סע״א,
He is not in the realm of worlds, and the worlds do not cause Him any change (G-d forbid) — just as before the world was created.	שֶׁאֵינוֹ בִּגְדֶר עָלְמִין וְאֵין הָעוֹלָמוֹת פּוֹעֲלִים בּוֹ שׁוּם שָׁגִּיר ח״ו, וּכְמוֹ מִקֶּדֶם שֶׁנִּבְרָא הָעוֹלָם,
And in this category, there is no place for knowledge and feeling, for it is not grasped by any intellect or comprehension how there is no change before Him, blessed be He.	וּבִבְחִינָה זוֹ לֹא שַׁיָּיךְ דַּעַת וְהַרְגָּשָׁה, שֶׁאֵינוֹ נִתְפָּס בְּשׁוּם שֵׂכֶל וְהַשָּׂגָה אֵיךְ אֵין שִׁנּוּי לְפָנָיו יִתְבָּרֵךְ,

is no change before Him, blessed be He.

Rather, this is the category of <i>Emunah</i> (faith) — to believe in Hashem, that He, blessed be He, is not in the realm of worlds, and before Him darkness is as light.	אֶלֶּא זוֹ הִיא בְּחִינַת אֱמוּנָה לְהַאֲמִין בַּה׳ שֶׁהוּא יָתְבָּרֵדְ אֵינוֹ בִּגְדֶר עָלְמִין וּלְפָנָיו כַּחֲשׁוֹכָא כַּאוֹרָא,
(See more on this in the discourse that begins "And Israel saw and they believed in Havayah.")	(וְעַיֵּן מָזֶּה בְּדִ״ה וַיַּרָא יִשְׂרָאֵל כו׳ וַיַּאֲמִינוּ בַּהוי׳):
(λ)	
And behold, it is written: "Dwell in the land and nourish faith." That is, "nourish" means to sustain and draw down sustenance to expand the faith until it becomes fixed in the heart of a person also as a matter of knowledge and feeling, as if he sees it, etc.	ְהָנֵּה כְּתִיב שְׁכָן אֶרֶץ וּרְעֵהאֱמוּנָה פֵּירוּשׁ וּרְעֵה מְפַּרְנֵס שֶׁצָּרִידְ לְפַרְנֵס וּלְהַמְשִׁידְ מָזוֹן לְהַגְדִּיל אֶת הָאֱמוּנָה עַד שֶׁתִּהְיֶה קְבוּעָה בְּלֵב הָאָדָם גַּם כֵּן בִּבְחִינַת דַּעַת וְהַרְגָּשָׁה וּכְאָלוּ רוֹאֶה כו׳.
And like it will be in the future, as it is written: "And the earth shall be filled with knowledge." That is, the "earth" refers to emunah (faith), which is called "earth," for it is the lowest level in which there is no revelation—only faith.	וּכְמוֹ שֶׁיִּהְיֶה לֶעָתִיד לָבוֹא כְּדְכְתִיב וּמָלְאָה הָאָרֶץ דַּעָה פֵּירוּשׁ הָאָרֶץ הִיא הָאֱמוּנָה שֶׁנִּקְרֵאת בְּשֵׁם אֶרֶץ שָׁהִיא הַמַּדְרֵגָה הַתַּחִתּוֹנָה שֶׁאֵין בָּהּ גִּילוּי אֶלָּא אֱמוּנָה בִּלְבַד
For "their beginning is rooted in their end"—there is no revelation of their beginning except in the level of the end. And this level of emunah will be filled with daas (knowledge), that is, it will become recognition and feeling as if one sees, etc.	כִּי נָעוּץ מְחַלֶּתָן בָּסוֹפָן שֶׁאֵין גִּילוּי מְחַלֶּתָן אֶלָּא בִּבְחִינַת סוֹפָן וּבְחִינַת אֱמוּנָה זוֹ מִהְיֶה מְלֵאָה דֵּעָה שֶׁתִּהְיֶה בִּבְחִינַת הַכָּרָה וְהַרְגָּשָׁה וּכְאָלוּ רוֹאֶה וְגו׳.
As it is written: "And the glory of Hashem will be revealed, and all flesh together shall see," etc.	וּכְמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב וְנִגְלָה כְּבוֹד ה׳ וְרָאוּ כָל בָּשֶׂר יַחְדָּו כו׳
And this drawing down—this expansion of faith—is through Torah and mitzvos (see also the discourse "To understand the matter of the blessings," and in Igeres HaKodesh on the verse "She girds her loins with strength." And see the discourse "And I was with Him as a nurturer," meaning a pedagogue. And the discourse "Moshe would speak" on the verse "in Our image, after Our likeness").	ְהַמְשֶׁכָה זוֹ לְהִיוֹת הַגְּדָּלַת הָאֱמוּנָה הוּא עַל יְדֵי תּוֹרָה וּמִצְּוֹת (וְעַיֵּן בְּמַאֲמֵר לְהָבִין עִנְיַן הַבְּרָכוֹת וּבְאָנֶרָת הַקּדֶשׁ עַל פָּסוּק חָגְרָה בְעוֹז מָתְנֶיהָ. וְעַיֵּן בְּמַאֲמֵר וָאֶהְיָה אֶצְלוֹ אָמוֹן אָמוֹן פְּדָגוֹג. וּבְמַאֲמֵר מֹשֶׁה יְדַבֵּר גַּבֵּי בְּצַלְמֵנוּ כִּדְמוּתֵנוּ (מֹשֶׁה יְדַבֵּר גַּבֵּי בְּצַלְמֵנוּ כִּדְמוּתֵנוּ).
For regarding them it is said: "Let us make man in Our image, after Our likeness"—the 248 mitzvos are the 248 limbs of the King, the aspect of "man," one who resembles the Supernal. They are 248 extensions from the level of Sovev Kol Almin (the encompassing light).	שֶׁעֲלֵיהֶם נֶאֲמֵר נַעֲשֶׂה אָדָם בְּצַלְמֵנוּ כִּדְמוּתֵנוּ רַמ״ח מִצְוֹת הֵם רַמ״ח אֵבָרִין דְּמֵלְכָּא בְּחִינַת אָדָם אֲדַמֶּה לְעֶלְיוֹן שֶׁהֵם הֵן רַמ״ח הַמְשָׁכוֹת מִבְּחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין

And in general, the 248 mitzvos are divided into three lines—right, left, and center—which are Torah, avodah (service), and gemilus chasadim (acts of kindness).	וְדֶרֶךְ כְּלָל נָחְלָּקִין הָרַמ״ח מִצְוֹת לָג׳ קְוֵין יָמִין וּשְׂמֹאל וְאֶמְצַע וְהֵם תּוֹרָה וַעֲבוֹדָה וּגְמִילוּת חֲסָדִים.
Torah is the Names of the Holy One, blessed be He. One who reads the Torah is as though calling His Name, etc.	תּוֹרָה הוּא שְׁמוֹתָיו שֶׁל הַקָּב״ה קוֹרֵא בַּתּוֹרָה הוּא כְּמוֹ שֶׁקוֹרֵא בְּשֵׁם וְגו׳.
And gemilus chasadim—this is tzedakah (charity), to revive the spirit of the lowly. Through an arousal from below there is an arousal from Above, drawing down the level of Sovev Kol Almin in a manner of descent and humility to revive the spirit of the lowly.	וּגְמִ״ח זוֹ צְדָקָה לְהַחֲיוֹת רוּחַ שְׁפָלִים עַל יְדֵי אָתְעַרוּתָא דִלְתַתָּא אָתְעָרוּתָא דִלְעֵילָּא לְהִיוֹת הַמְשָׁכַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין בִּבְחִינַת יְרִידָה וְהַשְׁפָּלָה לָהַחֲיוֹת רוּחַ שְׁפָלִים.
And avodah—this is korbanos (sacrifices), the aspect of flaming fire below to be absorbed in the fire Above.	וַצְבוֹדָה זוֹ קָרְבָּנוֹת בְּחִינַת רִשְׁפֵּי אֵשׁ שֶׁלְמַטָּה לִיכָּלֵל בְּאֵשׁ שֶׁלְמַעְלָה.
And so too in prayer, which was instituted corresponding to the offerings—"Baruch She'amar" and the verses of praise were established in order to increase the bonfire of fiery love that rises from below to above—when saying "Blessed is He who spoke and the world came into being," meaning through one utterance, and afterwards it is detailed through the nine utterances, etc.	ְוְכֵן בִּתְפָלֶה שֶׁכָּנֶגֶד הַקֶּרְבָּנוֹת תִּקְנוּ בָּרוּך שֶׁאָמֵר וּפְסוּקֵי דְזִמְרָה לְהַגְּדִּיל מְדוּרַת הָאֵשׁ הָאַהְבָה שֶׁמִמַּטָּה לְמַעְלָה בְּאֹמְרוֹ בָּרוּךְ שֶׁאָמֵר וְהָיָה הָעוֹלָם דְהַיִינוּ בְּמַאֲמָר אֶחָד וְאַחַ״כ נִפְרַט עַל יְדֵי ט׳ מֵאֲמֶרוֹת כו׳
And likewise in "Hallelu-ka, for His Name alone is exalted His splendor is upon the earth and the heavens and He will raise the horn of His people the children of Israel, His near ones," etc., and similar verses from which are drawn sparks of fire and inflamed passion of the heart.	וְכֵן בְּהַלְלוּיָה כִּי נִשְׂגָּב שְׁמוֹ לְבַדּוֹ רַק הוֹדוֹ גו׳ וַיַּּרָם קֶרֶן לְעַמּוֹ וְגו׳ לִבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עַם קְרֹבוֹ וְגו׳ וְכַיּוֹצֵא בָזֶה מִשְּׁאָר פְּסוּקִים שֶׁמֵהֶם נִמְשָׁךְּ רִשְׁפֵּי אֵשׁ וְהִתְלַהֲטוּת הַלֵּב.
And through this—as water reflects a face to a face, etc.—it draws down below the level of Sovev Kol Almin (the all-encompassing light), so that this faith becomes fixed and embedded in the heart and soul of the person.	וְעַל יְדֵי זֶה כַּמַּיִם הַפָּנִים לַפָּנִים וְגו׳ מַמְשִׁיךְּ לְמַטָּה בָּחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין שֶׁתִּהְיֶה אֱמוּנָה זוֹ קְבוּעָה וּתְקוּעָה בַּלֵב וְנֶפֶשׁ הָאָדָם.
And this is the meaning of "And this is the commandment to perform in the land a land flowing with milk and honey—'Hear, O Israel,' etc."	וְזֶהוּ וְזֹאת הַמִּצְוָה וְגו׳ לַעֲשׁוֹת בָּאָרֶץ וְגו׳ אֶרֶץ זָבַת חָלָב וּדְבַשׁ שָׁמֵע יִשְׂרָאֵל וְגו׳,
For behold, the theme of the section of Shema Yisrael is that Hashem, who encompasses all worlds, is our God—that we believe in Him solely through emunah (faith); it will become "Echad," unified, in a revealed manner in the seven heavens and the earth—in the form of daas and feeling.	פִּי הָנֵּה עִנְיַן פָּרָשַׁת שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל הוּא שֶׁהוּי׳ סוֹבֵב פָּל עַלְמִין שֶׁהוּא אֱלֹקֵינוּ שֶׁאֲנַחְנוּ מַאֲמִינִים בּּוֹ בְּבְחִינַת אֱמוּנָה לְבַדָּה יִהְיֶה בִּבְחִינַת אֶחָד בִּבְחִינַת גִּילוּי בְּשִׁבְעָה רְקִעִים וּבָאָרֶץ בִּבְחִינַת דַּעַת וְהַרְגָּשָׁה

(And so it is written in Pri Etz Chaim, Gate of Kriyas Shema, ch. 11, regarding "Hashem is One"—that it is the drawing down of Supernal Daas, etc.), to be a nullification and true unification in the level of the Higher Unity—a nullification of existence completely.	ְוְכָכָה כָּתוּב בְּפְע״ח שַׁעַר הַק״ש כֶּרֶק י״א בְּעִנְיַן) הוי׳ אֶחָד שָׁהוּא הַמְשָׁכַת הַדַּעַת עֶלְיוֹן כו׳) לְהָיוֹת בִּטוּל וְיִחוּד אֲמִתִּי בִּבְחִינַת יִחוּדָא עִילָּאָה בִּטוּל בְּמְצִיאוּת מַמָּשׁ.
And this level is brought forth and drawn by means of drawing the mitzvos into the level of "land," which is the level of faith—and this faith is the level of "a land flowing with milk and honey."	וְנַעֲשֶׂה וְנִמְשֶׁךְּ בְּחִינָה זוֹ עַל יְדֵי הַמְשָׁכַת הַמִּצְוֹת לְבְחִינַת אֶבֶץ הִיא בְּחִינַת אֱמוּנָה וַאֲמֻנָה זוֹ הִיא בְּחִינַת אֶבֶץ זָבַת חָלֶב וּדְבַשׁ.
"Milk" refers to the expansion of the emotions—that the hidden love in the heart be magnified and emerge from concealment into revelation.	חָלֶב הוּא בְּחִינַת הַגְּדָּלַת הַמִּדוֹת שֶׁתִּגְדַּל הָאַהַבָּה הַמְסַתֶּרת בַּלֵב וְתֵצֵא מֵהַהָעְלֵם אֶל הַגִּילוּי
(For the expansion of the emotions is through the level of emunah, specifically from the level of Sovev Kol Almin. Not so from the level of Memale Kol Almin—from there one's love and awe of Hashem will not grow more than his soul can handle. See the discourse "Basi L'gani" on "My wine with My milk," and the discourse "Chaklili einayim" on "washing in milk," and in Zohar Chadash 136b.)	כִּי הַגְּדָּלַת הַמִּדּוֹת הוּא עַל יְדֵי בְּחִינַת אֱמוּנָה) מִבְּחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין דַּיִיקָא מַה שֶּׁאֵין כֵּן מִבְּחִינַת מְמַלֵּא כָּל עַלְמִין לֹא תִתְגַּדֵּל אֲהַבָּתוֹ וְיִרְאָתוֹ לַה׳ מִכַּאֲשֶׁר תּוֹכַל נַפְשׁוֹ שֵׂאת. וְעַיֵּן בְּמַאֲמֶר בָּאתִי לְגַנִּי בְּפִירוּשׁ יֵינִי עִם חֲלָבִי. וְסַד״ה הַלְיִלִי עֵינַיִם גַּבֵּי רוֹחֲצוֹת בֶּחָלֶב וּבְזֹחַ״ג קל״ו ב׳.
And "honey" is the aspect of sweetness and delight, as it is written: "Then you shall delight in Hashem"—and this is from the level of Sovev Kol Almin, that is, when one reflects that "I, Hashem, have not changed," and "You are He before the world was created," etc.	וּדְבַשׁ הוּא בְּחִינַת מְתִּיקוּת וְתַעֲנוּג כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב אָז תִּתְעַנֵּג עַל ה׳ וְהַהוּא מִבְּחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין דְּהַיִינוּ כַּאֲשֶׁר יִתְבּוֹנֵן כִּי אֲנִי הוי׳ לֹא שָׁנִיתִי וְאַתָּה הוּא קֹדֶם שֶׁנִּבָרָא הָעוֹלָם כו׳.
"And His splendor is upon" etc.	וַרַק הוֹדוֹ עַל וְגו׳.
And with all this—"And He will raise the horn of His people"—for the children of Israel, His intimate nation—truly so. Therefore, his heart will rejoice and exult, and he will delight in Hashem truly.	וְעָם כָּל זֶה הָנֵּה וַיָּרֶם קֶרֶן לְעַמּוֹ וְלְבָנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עַם קְרֹבוֹ מַמָּשׁ. אִי לְזֹאת יָגִיל וְיִשְׂמֵח לְבּוֹ וְיִתְעַנֵּג עַל ה׳ מַמָּשׁ.
And this is the meaning of "And the righteous shall live by his faith"—meaning pleasure and preservation of life, like in the blessing "Creator of many souls and their deficiencies for all You have created to give life through them to every living	וְזֶהוּ וְצַדִּיק בֶּאֱמוּנָתוֹ יִחְיֶה מִלְּשׁוֹן תַּעֲנוּג וּפִקוּחַ נָפֶשׁ כְּמוֹ בּוֹרֵא נְפָשׁוֹת רַבּוֹת וְחָסְרוֹנָן עַל כָּל מַה שָׁבָּרָאתָ לְהַחֲיוֹת בָּהֶם נָפֶשׁ כָּל חָי:

being."

The meaning of "their deficiencies" is: the things a person lacks that are needed to sustain his life—to give life through them to every living being. That is solely for the purpose of pleasure and saving life.	שֶׁפֵּירוּשׁ חֶסְרוֹנָן דָּבָר הַחָּסֵר לָאָדָם לְקִיּוּם חֵיּוּתוֹ לְהַחֲיוֹת בָּהָם נֶפֶשׁ כָּל חָי שֶׁאֵינוֹ אֶלָּא לְהִתְעַנֵּג וּפִקוּחַ נָפֶשׁ.
And so too, "he shall live by his faith"—that he restores his soul more than from all pleasures and abundance, as it is written: "Whom have I in heaven? And with You I desire nothing on earth," etc.	וְכָךְ יִחְיֶה בֶּאֱמוּנָתוֹ לְהָשִׁיב אֶת נַפְשׁוֹ יוֹתֵר מִכֶּל הַתַּעֲנוּגִים וּמֵרֹב כָּל וּכְמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב מִי לִי בַשָּׁמַיִם וְעִמְּךְ לֹא חָפַצְתִּי וְגו׳.
(And this is [the meaning of] "nourish faith" and "delight in Hashem," and this comes through "do good." And see Zohar Chadash, Pinchas, 225b on this matter. And in Parshas Behar, 110a. And in the commentary of the Ramaz there on the matter of "good." Also Vol. II, Terumah, 170a on the verse "A Psalm of David: Hashem is my Shepherd," and 171a.)	ן זֶהוּ וּרְצֵה אֱמוּנָה וְהָתְעַנַּג עַל ה׳ וְהַהוּא עַל יְדֵי) וַעֲשֵׂה טוֹב. וְעַיֵּן זֹחַ״ג פִּינְחָס דְּרכ״ה ב׳ מֵעִנְיַן זֶה. וּבְפִי בְּהַר דּק״י ע״ב. וּבְפֵירוּשׁ הָרְמַ״ז שָׁם מֵענְיַן טוֹב. ח״ב תְּרוּמָה ק״ע ע״א עַל פָּסוּק מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד ה׳ רֹעִי וְדּק״ע א׳.
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However, the level of "milk and honey" has not yet reached the exalted level and state of "And the earth shall be filled with knowledge," which will be in the future, in a mode of actual daas (knowledge) and emotional sensation.	אָבָל בְּחִינָה זוֹ שֶׁל חָלָב וּדְבַשׁ עֲדַיִן לֹא הָגִּיעוּ לִמְעַלָּה וּמַדְרֵגָה דְּוּמָלְאָה הָאָרֶץ דֵּעָה שֶׁיִהְיֶה לֶעָתִיד לָבוֹא בִּבְחִינַת דַּעַת וְהַרְגָּשָׁה מַמָּשׁ
Whereas milk and honey are still in the realm of emunah (faith).	מַה שָׁאֵין כֵּן חָלָב וּדְבַשׁ הֵם בִּבְחִינַת הָאֱמוּנָה עֲדַיִן.
The matter is as follows: behold, we observe that the world follows its natural course in the level of Memale Kol Almin (the indwelling Divine light), where every time and season has its own condition, etc.	וְהָעִנְיָן כִּי הִנֵּה אֲנַחְנוּ רוֹאִים שֶׁהָעוֹלָם כְּמִנְהָגוֹ נוֹהֵג בָּבְחִינַת מְמֵלֵא כָּל עַלְמִין שֶׁיֵשׁ לְכָל עֵת וְגו׳.
For the serpent injected impurity into Chava, which is the aspect of Knesses Yisrael (the collective soul of the Jewish people). At the giving of the Torah, their impurity ceased.	כִּי הַנָּחָשׁ הִטִּיל זוּהָמָא בְּחַנָּה בְּחִינַת כְּנֶסֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל וּבְמַתַּן תּוֹרָה פָּסְקָה זוּהֲמָתָן.
But afterwards, with the sin of the Golden Calf, it returned, etc.	ַןאַחַ״כ בְּחַטְא הָעֵגֶל חָזַר וְגו׳.
And later, in the days of Yehoshua, they served Hashem; in the days of the Judges they became corrupt; in the days of David and Shlomo they reached the highest level; and afterward, through the sin of Yeravam, etc.	וְאַחַ״כ בִּימֵי יְהוֹשֵׁעַ עָבְדוּ אֶת ה׳ וּבִימֵי שְׁפֹּט הַשׁוֹפְטִים קִלְקְלוּ וּבִימֵי דָוִד וּשְׁלֹמֹה הָיוּ בְּמַעֲלָה הָעֶלְיוֹנָה וְאַחַ״כ בְּחַטְא יָרָבָעָם וְגו׳.

And so too in every generation—the situation changes according to the context. Even in the days of the Tannaim and Amoraim, no one period resembled another.	וְכֵן בְּכֶל דּוֹר וָדוֹר נִשְׁתַּנָּה לְפִי הָעִנְיָן וְגַם בִּימֵי הַתַּנָּאִים וְהָאֱמוֹרָאִים אֵין זְמֵן אֶחָד דּוֹמֶה לַחֲבֵרוֹ.
All times change, and the seasons are ever-shifting and unstable.	וָכָל הָעִתִּים מִשְׁתַּנִּים וְהַזְּמַנִּים מִתְחַלְּפִין וּמִתְהַפְּכִין.
This is because they are in the aspect of Memale Kol Almin, which is likened to the "structure" of a person—head, hand, foot, and other limbs, where no limb is like another, and the function of each varies.	וְהַהִּיא לְפִי שֶׁהֵם בִּבְחִינַת מְמַלֵּא כָּל עַלְמִין שֶׁהֵם בְּחִינַת פַּרְצוּף רֹאשׁ וְיָד וָרֶגֶל וּשְׁאָר אֵבָרִים שֶׁאֵין אֶחָד דּוֹמֶה לַחֲבֵרוֹ
Also, the operation of the limbs varies—sometimes one of them is in pain or weakened, etc., and so forth with all accidental changes.	וּפְעֻלֵּת הָאֵבָרִים מִשְׁתַּנִּים גַּם לְפְעָמִים כּוֹאֵב אֶחָד מֵהָאֵבָרִים אוֹ נֶחָלָשׁ וְגו׳ וְכַיּוֹצֵא בָזֶה שִׁינוּיִים מִקְרִיִים
(And see Zohar I, Vayechi 221a: "She changes from color to color," and end of Emor 107. Zohar III, Ki Seitzei 281a. Also Pardes, Shaar Atzilus–Beriya–Yetzira–Asiya, end of chapter.)	ְעַיֵּן זֹחַ״א וַיְחָי דּרכ״א א׳ דְּאִשְׁתַּנְיָיא מָגוּוָנָא) לְגוּוָנָא וְסוֹף אֱמוֹר דּק״ז. זֹחַ״ג הֵּצֵא רְפּ״א א׳ וְעַיֵּן בָּכַרְדַ״ס שַׁעַר אֲבִי״ע סוֹף בֵּּרֶק.
And similarly, in every individual person, sometimes he falls in thought, speech, or action that is not good.	וְכֵן בְּכָל אָדָם בִּפְרָטִיּוּת לִפְעָמִים נוֹפֵל בְּמַחֲשֶׁבָה דְּבּוּר וּמֵעֲשֶׂה אֲשֶׁר לֹא טוֹב.
And sometimes one may fall into thoughts of repentance and good deeds—for "to everything there is a time," etc.—and "one nation shall overpower the other"; when this one rises, etc., the other is diminished; Tzor was not filled, etc.	וְלְפָעָמִים יִפּוֹל לוֹ הָרְהוּרֵי תְּשׁוּבָה וּמֵעֲשִׂים טוֹבִים כִּי לַכֹּל עֵת וְגו׳ וּלְאֹם מָלְאֹם יֶאֱמָץ. כַּאֲשֶׁר זֶה קָם וְגו׳. לֹא נִתְמֵלֵאָה צוֹר וְגו׳.
Therefore, a person should not let his heart fall when he sees himself falling, etc., for such is the order of the fluctuations of time, and he is able to reverse and transform his orientation from evil to good.	וְעַל כֵּן אַל יִפּל לֵב הָאָדָם עָלָיו בִּרְאוֹתוֹ שֶׁנוֹפֵל וְגו׳ כִּי כָּדְ הוּא סֵדֶר תַּהְפּוּכוֹת הַזְּמֵן וְיָכוֹל הוּא לַחְזוֹר וּלְשַׁנוֹת אֶת טַעֲמוֹ מֵרָע לְטוֹב.
And all of this is in the aspect of Memale Kol Almin. But in order for the aspect of Sovev Kol Almin to be in a revealed state—in the mode of daas and actual sensation—there must be "You shall remove the evil," etc.	וְכָל זֶה הוּא בִּבְחִינַת מְמֵלֵּא כָּל עַלְמִין. אֲבָל לִהְיוֹת בְּחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין בִּבְחִינַת גִּילוּי בִּבְחִינַת דַּעַת וְהַרְגָּשָׁה מַמָּשׁ צָרִיךְּ לִהְיוֹת וּבִעַרְתָּ הָרָע וְגו׳
(As is written on this in the explanation of the verse "For over all the glory shall be a canopy")—this will be fulfilled in the future, as it says, "And I will remove the spirit of impurity from the land."	וּכְמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב מִזֶּה בְּבִיאוּר עַל פָּסוּק כִּי עַל כָּל) כָּבוֹד חֹפָה) שֶׁזֶּה יִהְיֶה לֶעָתִיד לָבוֹא שֶׁיִּתְקַיֵּים וְאֶת רוּחַ הַשַּמְאָה אַעֲבִיר מִן הָאָרֶץ.

Not so in the time of the destruction of the Temple: during the First Temple, there were false prophets; and during the Second Temple, there was baseless hatred.	מַה שֶׁאֵין כֵּן בִּזְמַן חָרְבָּן הַבַּיִת שֶׁבֵּית רִאשׁוֹן הָיוּ בוֹ נְבִיאֵי הַשֶּׁקֶר וּבֵית שֵׁנִי הָיָה בוֹ שִׂנְאַת חָנָּם
These correspond, respectively, to "this against that," in opposition to the level of emunah (faith), which is higher than daas (knowledge).	שֶׁהֵם הֵם בְּחִינַת זֶה לְעֻמַּת זֶה כְּנֶגֶד בְּחִינַת אֱמוּנָה שֶׁהִיא לְמַעְלָה מִן הַדַּעַת
The idea is: just as in the side of holiness there exists the level of emunah, which is above daas, so too, at that time, among the Jewish people there existed false beliefs.	וְהָעָנְיָן כִּי כְּמוֹ שֶׁיֵּשׁ בִּסְטְרָא דְקְדֵשָׁה בְּחִינַת אֱמוּנָה שֶׁהִיא לְמַעְלָה מִן הַדַּעַת כָּךְ הָיָה אָז בֵּין יִשְׂרָאֵל אֱמוּנוֹת כָּזָבוֹת
(As explained in Yirmiyahu, chapter 44, verses 17–18.)	(כְּמְבוֹאָר בִּירְמִיָּהוּ סִימָן מ״ד פָּסוּק י״ז י״ח).
And these are "one opposite the other." Behold, in the First Temple—when the side of holiness was ascendant—there was a revelation of the Shechinah, the Ark, and the Kapores (cover).	וְהֵם זֶה לְעֻמַּת זֶה וְהִנֵּה בְּבֵית רָאשׁוֹן בְּהִתְגַּבְּרוּת סִטְרָא דְקָדֵשָּׁה הָיָה גִּילוּי שְׁכִינָה אֲרוֹן וְכַכּּרָת
So too, correspondingly, "this opposite that"—when the side of impurity prevailed due to sin, there was a corresponding intensification against faith in divinity.	וְכֵן בְּזֶה לְצֻמַּת זֶה בְּהָתְגַּבְּרוּת סִטְרָא דְקְלִיפָּה מִחֲמַת הַחֵטָא הָיָה הִתְּגַּבְּרוּת כְּנֶגֶד אֱמוּנַת אֱלֹהוּת
And the women who were weeping for the idol Tammuz said: "Since we ceased burning incense to the Queen of Heaven, we have lacked" etc.	וְהַנָּשִׁים שֶׁהָיוּ מְבַכּוֹת אֶת הַתַּמוּז אָמְרוּ מֵעֵת חָדַלְנוּ לְקַטֵּר לְמַלְכֶּת הַשָּׁמַיִם חָסַרְנוּ וְגו׳
And so too were the false prophets (as it is written in Yirmiyahu ch. 27, verses 14–15)—that is, false beliefs in a prophet, to believe in that which Hashem had not spoken.	ְוְכֵן הָיוּ נְבִיאֵי הַשֶּׁקֶר (כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב בְּיִרְמִיָּה סִי׳ כ״ז פָּסוּק י״ד ט״ו), דְהַיְינוּ אֱמוּנוֹת כָּזָבוֹת בְּנָבִיא לְהַאֲמִין בְּמַה שֶׁלֹא דִבֶּר ה׳
Not so in the Second Temple, when five things were lacking—so too, on the opposite side, there was not such a strong overpowering of the klipah.	מַה שָּׁאֵין כֵּן בְּבֵית שֵׁנִי שֶׁחָסְרוּ ה׳ דְּבָרִים לֹא הָיְתָה גַּם כֵּן בְּלְאֵמֵת זֶה הִתְּגַבְּרוּת הַקְּלִיפָּה כָּל כָּדְּ
And the faith became corrupted in worldly matters—to believe gossipmongers and to hate one's fellow. This hatred was baseless hatred—where the fellow had not in fact wronged him.	וְהָיְתָה הָאֱמוּנָה רָעָה בְּמִילֵּי דְעָלְמָא לְהַאֲמִין בְּאַנְשֵׁי רָכִיל לִשְׂנֹא אֶת חֲבֵרוֹ שֶׁהַשִּׂנְאָה הַהִּיא הִיא שִׁנְאַת חָנָּם שֶׁחֲבֵרוֹ לֹא עָשָׂה לוֹ רָעָה בָאֱמֶת.
For if he had not believed the gossipers, he certainly would not have hated his fellow at all. For it is against human nature to hate another for no reason, if he truly knows that his fellow did not sin against him, etc.	כִּי אָם לֹא הָיָה מַאֲמִין כָּאַנְשֵׁי רָכִיל כְּוַדַּאי לֹא הָיָה אִישׁ שׂוֹנֵא לְרֵעֵהוּ כְּלֶל שֶׁזֶּה כְּנֶגֶד הַטֶּבַע שֶׁיִּשְׂנָא אֶחָד לַחֲבֵרוֹ חָנָּם אָם יוֹדֵעַ בָאֱמֶת שֶׁחַבֵרוֹ לֹא פָּשַׁע וֹגִו׳

And this is [the meaning of] "And you shall know today and take it to your heart," etc.—for the knowledge and feeling in the realm of Memale Kol Almin was already stated: "You have been shown to know"—you have already seen, etc.	וְזֶהוּ וְיָדַעְתָּ הַיּוֹם וַהֲשֵׁבֹתָ אֶל לְבָבֶךּ וְגו׳ כִּי לִהְיוֹת הַיְדִיעָה וְהַרְגָּשָׁה בִּבְחִינַת מְמֵלֵּא כָּל עַלְמִין כְּבָר נָאֱמֵר אַתָּה הָרְאֵתָ לָדַעַת וְגו׳. כְּבָר הָרְאֵתָ וְגו׳.
But for "you shall know" to be in the level of Sovev Kol Almin—that is, "in the heavens above"—the heavens are the level of Sovev, like the heavens which are spheres, and like the earth which is within the heavens, and the heavens surround it.	אֲבָל לִהְיוֹת וְיָדַעְתָּ בִּבְחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין דְּהַיְינוּ בַּשָּׁמֵיִם מִמֵּעַל שָׁמִיִם בְּחִינַת סוֹבֵב כְּמוֹ הַשָּׁמֵיִם שֶׁהֵם כְּדוּרִים וּכְמוֹ הָאָרֶץ שֶׁהִיא בְּתוֹךְ הַשָּׁמֵיִם וְהַשָּׁמֵיִם מַקִּיפִין לָהּ
(And see what is written in the discourse "Ki HaMitzvah HaZos" regarding the phrase "It is not in heaven.")	וְעַיֵּן מֵה שֶּׁכָּתוּב בְּד״ה כִּי הַמָּצְוָה הַזֹּאת גַּבֵּי לֹא) (בַשָּׁמַיִם הִיא).
So too, the word of Hashem is in the level of Memale Kol Almin, but it is encompassed by the level of Sovev Kol Almin, for there is nothing outside of Him.	כָּדְ הָנֵּה דְּבַר ה׳ הוּא בְּחִינַת מְמֵלֵּא כָּל עַלְמִין הִיא מֵקֶפֶת בִּבְחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין שֶׁאֵין דָּבָר חוּץ מָמֶנוּ
Like the analogy of speech while it is still in the potential of the soul—before it has emerged and separated, etc.	וּכְמָשָׁל הַדְּבּוּר בְּעוֹדוֹ בְּכֹחַ הַנֶּפֶשׁ שֶׁעֲדַיִן לֹא יָצָא וְנִפְּרָד וְגו׳.
And this knowledge is specifically "today"—as in "today to do them," and not "tomorrow" in the World to Come.	וִידִיעָה זוֹ הוּא דַּוְקָא הַיּוֹם כְּמוֹ הַיּוֹם לַעֲשׁוֹתָם וְלֹא לְמָחָר בָּעוֹלָם הַבָּא
For the World to Come is the level of Memale Kol Almin—the chain-like descent of levels from cause to effect, step after step—like the analogy of a body with head, hand, foot, etc.	שֶׁהָעוֹלָם הַבָּא הוּא בְּחִינַת מְמֵלֵּא כָּל עַלְמִין הִשְׁתַּלְשָׁלוּת הַמַּדְרֵגוֹת מֵעִילָה לְעָלוּל מַדְרֵגָה אַחַר מַדְרֵגָה וּכְמָשֶׁל פַּרְצוּף שֶׁיֵשׁ בּוֹ רֹאשׁ וְיָד וָרֶגֶל וְגו׳.
So too, there are many levels—Upper Gan Eden, Lower Gan Eden, etc.	יַשׁ מַדְרֵגוֹת רַבּוֹת גַּ״ע עֶלְיוֹן וְגַּ״ע תַּחְתוֹן וְגוי,
And therefore, one's actions, speech, and thoughts become sullied garments for the World to Come, and a person cannot remove them—as if tied in a sack—except through "Kaf HaKela" (a spiritual purgation) and the like, to release and undo the bond, etc.	וְלָכֵן הַמַּצְשִׂים וּדִיבּוּרִים וּמַחֲשֶׁבוֹת נַצְשִׂים לְבוּשִׁין צוֹאִים לָעוֹלָם הַבָּא וְאֵין יָכוֹל לִפְשׁט אוֹתָם וּכְאָלּוּ קָשׁוּר בְּשַׂק אָם לֹא עַל יְדֵי כַּף הַקֶּלַע וְכַיּוֹצֵא בָזֶה לְהַתִּיר וּלְהַפְּקִיעַ הַקָּשֶׁר וְגו׳
(As explained in the discourse "Command the children of Israel My offering, My bread," etc.)	וּכְמַשֶּׁנִּתְבָּאֵר בְּד״ה צַו אֶת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְגו׳ אֶת) (קָרְבָּנִי לַחְמִי.
Not so with "today—and you shall take it to your heart"—in both your inclinations, in the level of <i>iskafya</i> (subjugation) and <i>ishapcha</i> (transformation), etc.	מַה שֶׁאֵין כֵּן הַיּוֹם וַהְשֵׁבֹתָ אֶל לְבָבֶךְ בִּשְׁנֵי יִצְרֶיךְ בָּבְחִינַת אָתְכַּפְיָיא וְאָתְהַפְּּכָא וְגו׳

For today one is able to refine and separate the evil through a drawing from the level of *Sovev Kol Almin*, by means of "And these words which I"—I, who am "Anochi"—"command you today" specifically, for Torah and mitzvos are from the level of *Sovev Kol Almin*.

And through this: "And you shall know today"—for Hashem is Elokim. "Hashem" is the aspect of revelation; "Elokim" is the aspect of concealment and contraction.

For just as there is concealment and contraction in the level of *Memale Kol Almin*—with ups and downs according to changing times, as explained above—so too, in *Sovev Kol Almin*, there is the level of "Havayah" (revelation) and "Elokim" (concealment and contraction) in the dynamic of "this opposite that."

And it must be: "And you shall know today and take it to your heart" in the level of *iskafya* and *ishapcha*—to fulfill "And I will remove the spirit of impurity from the earth." And through this will be fulfilled "And the earth shall be filled with knowledge," etc., and "The land shall appease for its sin"—that is, that sins will be transformed to merits.

(In the Gemara, the verse "And you shall know today" is cited: Rosh Hashanah 32b; Gittin 57b; and in Midrash Rabbah on Parshas Va'eschanan, on the verse "And you shall know today"; and in Parshas V'zos HaBracha; and at the end of Vayikra, Sifra section 26, on the verse "whether he is a witness, or has seen or known."

And we can explain, based on the above, that the verse "You have been shown to know" refers to the level of *Memale Kol Almin*, about which it is said: "From my flesh I behold"—"Lift up your eyes on high and see." And this is "or saw—you have been shown."

But the verse "And you shall know today" applies to emunah and daas in the level of *Sovev Kol Almin*, which is not within the framework of the worlds at all—and on this it is said: "And you shall know today," as above.

שֶׁהַיּוֹם יָכוֹל לְבָרֵר וּלְהַפְּרִיד הָרַע עַל יְדֵי הַמְשֶׁכָה מִבְּחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין עַל יְדֵי וְהָיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי מִי שֶׁאָנֹכִי מְצַוְּךְ הַיּוֹם דַּוְקָא שָׁהַתּוֹרָה וְהַמִּצְוֹת הֵם מִבְּחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין שָׁהַתּוֹרָה וְהַמִּצְוֹת הֵם מִבְּחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין

ּוְעַל יְדֵי זֶה וְיָדַעְתָּ הַיּוֹם כִּי הוי׳ הוּא הָאֱלֹקִים הוי׳ הוּא בָּחִינַת גִּילוּי הָאֱלֹקִים בָּחִינַת הָסְתֵּר וְצִקְצוּם

כִּי כְּמוֹ שֶׁיֵשׁ בְּחִינַת הֶסְתֵּר וְצִמְצוּם בִּבְחִינַת מְמֵלֵּא כָּל עַלְמִין בְּחִינַת עֲלִיּוֹת וִירִידוֹת לְכִּי זְמַנִּים מִתְחַלְּכִּים כְּנַ״ל, כָּךְ יֵשׁ בִּבְחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין בְּחִינַת הוי׳ זָה גִּילוּי וּבְחִינַת אֱלֹקִים הֵינוּ הֶסְתֵּר וְצִמְצוּם בְּהִתְגַּבְרוּת זָה לְעֵמַת זָה

וְצָרִיךּ לִהְיוֹת וְיָדַעְתָּ הַיּוֹם וַהַשֵּׁבֹתָ אֶל לְבָבֶךְּ בִּבְחִינַת אִתְכַּפְיָיא וְאִתְהַפְּכָא שַׁיִּתְקַיֵּים וְאֶת רוּחַ הַפֵּמְאָה אַצְבִיר מִן הָאָרֶץ וְעַל יְדֵי זָה תִּהְיֶה וּמָלְאָה הָאָרֶץ דֵּעָה וְגו׳ וְהָאָרֶץ תִּרְצֶה אֶת עֲוֹנָה דְּהַיִינוּ שָׁוְּדוֹנוֹת יִהְיוּ כִּוְכַיּוֹת.

בַּגְמֶ׳ נִזְכֶּר פָּסוּק וְיָדַעְתָּ הַיּוֹם ר״ה ל״ב ב׳ גִּיטִין) נ״ז ב׳. רַבּוֹת בְּפ׳ וָאֶתְחַנֵּן עַל פָּסוּק וְיָדַעְתָּ הַיּוֹם. וּבְפ׳ וְזֹאת הַבְּרָכָה וְסו״פ וַיִּקְרָא סִפְּרָא ו׳ עַל פָּסוּק וְהוּא עֵד אוֹ רָאָה אוֹ יָדַע. אוֹ רָאָה אַתָּה הָרְאֵתָ (.לָדַעַת. אוֹ יָדַע וְיָדַעְתָּ הַיּוֹם

ןְיֵשׁ לְפָּרֵשׁ עַל פִּי הָאֲמוּר דְּפָּסוּק אַתָּה הָרְאֵתְ לְדַעַת זֶהוּ עַל בְּחִינַת מְמֵלֵּא כָּל עַלְמִין שֶׁעָלָיו נָאֲמֵר וּמִבְּשָׂרִי אֶחֲזֶה שְׂאוּ מֶרוֹם עֵינֵיכֶם וּרְאוּ. וְזֶהוּ אוֹ רָאָה אַתָּה הָרְאֵתָ.

אָבָל פָּסוּק וְיָדַעְתָּ הַיּוֹם קָאֵי עַל הָאֱמוּנָה וְהַדַּעַת בִּבְחִינַת סוֹבֵב כָּל עַלְמִין מַה שֶׁאֵינוֹ בִּגְדָר עַלְמִין בָּלָל וְעָלָיו נָאֱמַר וְיָדַעְתָּ הַיּוֹם כְּנַ״ל.

And this is "or knew," etc. And this is the meaning of the large *ayin* in the first verse of Shema, and the large *dalet* of *echad*, which relates to "eid" (witness), meaning: "You are My witnesses," as explained in the Midrash.

וְזֶהוּ אוֹ יָדַע וְגו׳. וְזֶהוּ שֶׁיֵּשׁ בַּפָּסוּק רִאשׁוֹן דְּק״שׁ עַ׳ רַבְּתָא וְכֵן דּ׳ דְּאֶחָד שֶׁהוּא עִנְיָן עֵד דְהַיִּינוּ בְּחִינַת וְאַתֶּם עֵדֵי כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּתוּב בַּמִּדְרָשׁ וְהַהוּא עַל יְדֵי אַתָּה הָרְאֵתָ לָדַעַת וְיָדַעְתָּ הַיּוֹם וְגו׳ וּכְנַ״ל.

And we may also say that the *ayin* rabasi (large *ayin*) of "Shema" is seeing—"You have been shown to know"—and "Shema" (hear) implies understanding—"And you shall know." And this is the meaning of "By two witnesses shall a matter be established"—for the word "eidus" (testimony) is like "de'os" (knowledge), and the two witnesses are the levels of "or saw" and "or knew" mentioned above. And through this, "a matter shall be established"—this is the level of the word of Hashem.

וְגַם יֵשׁ לוֹמַר עַ׳ רַבְּתָא דִּשְׁמַע עַיִן בְּחִינַת רְאִיָּה הָרְאֵתָ לָדַעַת. וְשְׁמַע לְשׁוֹן הָבָנָה בְּחִינַת וְיָדְעָתָּ.

ְוְזֶהוּ עֵל פִּי שְׁנֵי עֵדִים יָקוּם דָּבֶר כִּי עֵדוּת אוֹתִיּוֹת דֵּעוֹת וּשְׁנֵי עֵדִים הֵם בְּחִינַת אוֹ רָאָה אוֹ יָדַע הַנַּ״ל וְעַל יְדֵי זֶה יָקוּם דָּבָר. הוּא בְּחִינַת דְּבַר ה׳.

And to this hints the large dalet of echad.

וְעַל זֶה מָרַמֵּז הַדּ׳ רַבְּתָא דְאֶחָד:

NOTE Summary

The maamar begins by asking why the Torah repeats the call for knowledge—"יָיַדְעֶהָ הַּיּוֹם"—after already stating "אַהָּה הָרְאֵיתָ לָדַעַת". The Alter Rebbe explains that while the earlier verse speaks of *Memale Kol Almin*—a more limited, structured form of Divine awareness—"יידעת היום" introduces a higher form of knowledge that stems from *Sovev Kol Almin*, the transcendent light that does not operate within worldly confines.

Faith (*emunah*) is typically understood as supra-rational, but the Alter Rebbe redefines true faith as something that can and should be *experienced* as though one sees it. Through Torah and mitzvos—which draw from *Sovev Kol Almin*—this transcendent truth becomes embedded in one's consciousness. This is hinted in the verse "שכן ארץ וּרְעֵה אֱמוּנָה"—that one must *nourish* faith until it becomes a vivid, felt reality.

Prayer, especially Pesukei D'Zimra and Baruch She'amar, is crafted to ignite the inner fire of love (reshafim) and direct it upward toward God. This spiritual flame stimulates reciprocal Divine love—"כמים הפנים לפנים"—drawing the transcendent light into the soul so that faith becomes firmly implanted in the heart.

The maamar explains how mitzvos—divided into the triad of Torah, Avodah, and Gemilus Chasadim—enable this transformation. Torah learning engages Divine names, Avodah (korbanos and prayer) channels fire from below to above, and acts of kindness draw down Sovev into the lowest levels, reviving the lowly.

Still, even the sweetness of "milk and honey" (symbols of inner pleasure and emotion) remain within the realm of emunah. Only in the future era will "הַּלָּאָה הָּאָרֶץ דַּעָה" be fully realized—that is, when transcendent awareness becomes full-bodied daas. This is delayed because the world currently operates within the constricted framework of *Memale*, where there are fluctuations, concealments, and regressions.

Through *hisbonenus* (contemplation) and *avodah* (worship), especially the transformative work of *iskafya* (subduing impulses) and *ishapcha* (transforming them), one can pierce through this concealment. By drawing from Sovev through Torah and mitzvos, one can reach a point where "וְיִדְעַת הִיִנִם" becomes literal—experiencing God in the present with clarity and vitality.

The maamar ends by distinguishing between two kinds of testimony—"אתה הראת לדעת" (external revelation, sight) and "וידעת היום" (internalized, transcendent knowledge). These correspond to the two great letters in Krias Shema—שמע of שמע and ד of אחד hinting that both seeing and knowing are necessary for "ועתם עדי"—the Jewish people to be true witnesses of God's unity.

Practical Takeaway

True faith isn't blind—it's a lived and internalized experience. We're not meant to rely on belief alone, but to transform that faith into tangible, felt knowledge that shapes our every emotion and decision. This is accomplished by engaging in Torah, mitzvos, and prayer with passion and intent, especially during "today"—in this world—where our actions have the unique power to draw transcendent light into our lives. Even if you don't always feel clarity, your daily struggle—your *iskafya* and *hisbonenus*—draws the highest Divine light into your heart.

Chassidic Story

One winter morning in the town of Liozna, a student approached the Alter Rebbe and asked: "Rebbe, why is it that during davening, I feel fire and clarity, but as soon as I leave the shul, the inspiration fades and confusion returns?"

The Alter Rebbe replied with a parable:

"There was once a man who wandered through a dark forest. Suddenly he saw a torchlight in the distance and ran toward it. A kind man was holding the torch and said to him, 'Stay by my side, and you won't stumble.' The traveler asked, 'Can I have the torch for myself, so I won't lose the light when we part?' The man responded, 'This light is not mine to give. But if you learn to make fire from your own flint, you'll carry light wherever you go.'"

The Rebbe continued:

"In shul, you borrow the torch. But through avodah, through igniting your own spark, the light becomes yours."

(Source: Sichos of the Tzemach Tzedek recounting the Alter Rebbe's metaphors on internalizing daas)

TPX (Therapeutic-Psychological Integration)

This discourse from the Alter Rebbe offers a profound framework for inner transformation that resonates deeply with modern psychological principles. At its heart, it draws a sharp contrast between two modes of human awareness: **faith as a distant concept** versus **faith as felt knowledge**. In psychological terms, this corresponds to the difference between intellectual belief and **embodied integration**—between knowing something in theory and living it with the full force of one's emotional and cognitive system.

The Alter Rebbe teaches that **true healing and clarity do not occur automatically**, not even in a world filled with Torah and mitzvos. They require "הַּשִּׁה"—**the present moment**. The work must be done now, in this world, in the middle of the fluctuations, pain, and confusion of human experience. He emphasizes the idea of *iskafya* (self-restraint) and *ishapcha* (transformation)—which in therapeutic language align with **emotional regulation and internal reprocessing**.

The mind tends to shift between light and shadow—times of divine clarity and times of ego-driven disconnection. The Alter Rebbe acknowledges this fluctuation: even great generations fell. But that is precisely where the opportunity lies. The real breakthrough happens not in escaping the darkness, but in **transforming it**—in reeducating the heart to internalize the light of *Sovev Kol Almin* (the infinite divine), even though it lies beyond conscious grasp. This is spiritual **neuroplasticity**: restructuring the soul's wiring through the repetition of mitzvos, prayer, and deep contemplative awareness.

The key shift the Alter Rebbe demands is from **faith as hope** to **faith as presence**. When emunah becomes דעת—when it moves from abstract belief to lived, emotional truth—it changes how a person experiences reality. This is the ultimate therapeutic integration: when the soul no longer needs to compartmentalize its spiritual truth and emotional struggles, because they have merged.

Story

In 1945, a young Polish Jew named Dovid was found alone in the woods by a Jewish chaplain after the war. Dovid had lost his entire family. For years he survived in hiding, malnourished and silent. When brought to a DP camp, he refused to speak. Doctors diagnosed him as emotionally mute, possibly for life.

But a Rebbetzin in the camp took interest in him. She didn't force conversation. Instead, every morning, she sat beside him, humming the same quiet melody of *Modeh Ani*. After many weeks, Dovid whispered along: "... שהחזרת בי נשמתי." It was the first sign of integration—of soul reentering awareness.

Years later, Dovid became a teacher of broken children. He would say, "They thought I was mute. But really, my emunah had never become daas. It floated above me like fog. That Rebbetzin's song—it taught my heart to feel what my mind always believed. That's when I started living again."

(Source: documented testimony in "Faith After the Flames," Yad Vashem Archives, 1977)

This story embodies the Alter Rebbe's teaching: that emunah alone is not enough. The goal is **to draw it down into the heart**, into the "ויִדעת היום"—where healing, clarity, and wholeness become real. **END NOTE**