



TORAH OHR • PARSHAS TOLDOS • MAAMAR 3

ביאור על הנ"ל

An Explanation of the Above



There are two kinds of Daas: lower Daas, which binds understanding into the emotions and refines them, and upper Daas, which draws the undivided emotions of Keser (ahavah rabbah) down, and higher still, draws the Torah's "wealth" from the first three Sefiros of Keser. That Torah-wealth, fully revealed in the Time to Come, is what quenches even the love that is above reason.

DEDICATED IN HONOR OF

מוקדש לכבוד הגאון המקובל רבי לוי יצחק שניאורסאהן זצ"ל

Dedicated in honor of the Rebbe's father, Reb Levi Yitzchok



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THE BIG IDEA

There are two kinds of Daas: lower Daas, which binds understanding into the emotions and refines them, and upper Daas, which draws the undivided emotions of Keser (ahavah rabbah) down, and higher still, draws the Torah's "wealth" from the first three Sefiros of Keser. That Torah-wealth, fully revealed in the Time to Come, is what quenches even the love that is above reason.

Each section: the Hebrew, then the translation, then a short explanation under a gold rule. Small numbers in the Hebrew are the notes at the end.

THE MAAMAR IN BRIEF

The maamar explains the second half of "Many waters cannot extinguish the love... if a man would give all the wealth of his house." "If" means "when": in the Time to Come a man will surely give this wealth, which Proverbs calls the treasure that Daas brings into the chambers. To define Daas, the Alter Rebbe reconciles two Kabbalistic models of the Sefiros, a vertical chain and three parallel lines, as describing two kinds of emotion. Lower Daas bonds the intellect into emotions born of understanding (ahavas olam) and refines them, since such emotions can hide a trace of the animal soul; the story of Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon, who feared his devotion was partly temperament, illustrates this. Upper Daas, in the middle line beneath Keser, draws down emotions above intellect: ahavah rabbah, the undivided love present in every soul, symbolized by Rivkah, read as rivkah, a team of cattle tied together. Many waters of comprehension cannot quench it, but the Torah, rooted in the first three Sefiros of Keser, can. This also explains the hundred daily blessings, and the Resurrection, when the body will live from the encompassing light.

OUTLINE

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|----------|--|--------|
| 1 | "If a man would give" | ¶1-2 |
| | "Im" means "when": in the Time to Come a man will certainly give "all the wealth of his house," the treasure Daas brings into the house. | |
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| 2 | Two orders of the Sefiros | ¶3-10 |
| | Chochmah builds, Binah establishes, Daas fills. The vertical chain and the three lines are both true: they describe emotions born of intellect (lower Daas) and emotions rooted in Keser (upper Daas). | |
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| 3 | Lower Daas refines the emotions | ¶11-13 |
| | Daas is connection, the inner dimension of the emotions; without it they may be mixed, as when fervent prayer is later followed by anger. | |

4 Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon's test

¶14-22

Rabbi Chanina feared his readiness to die for Torah came partly from a natural love of learning; his generosity proved it did not.

5 Ahavas olam, ahavah rabbah and Rivkah

¶23-24

Love born of understanding is ahavas olam; love above intellect is ahavah rabbah, the undivided middos of Keser, symbolized by Rivkah, who descends into Torah and so ascends.

6 Many waters and the wealth of his house

¶25-26

Comprehension cannot quench ahavah rabbah, but the Torah, from the first three Sefiros of Keser, satisfies it; hence the hundred blessings, which draw sovev into memalei.

7 The body living from the Infinite Light

¶27

As will move the foot without being contained in it, the encompassing light will sustain the resurrected body without food.

KEY CONCEPTS

Upper Daas and lower Daas דעת עליון ודעת תחתון

Lower Daas stands below Chochmah and Binah and carries intellect into the emotions; upper Daas stands directly below Keser and carries the light of Keser into intellect and emotions alike.

Two orders of the Sefiros סדר זה תחת זה וג' קווין

The Sefiros as a vertical chain (each emerging from the one above) or as three parallel lines; both are true, for two kinds of emotion.

Ahavas olam אהבת עולם

Love born from understanding through lower Daas; in the Zohar, the "lesser love." Its intellectual sources are distinct, so its emotions are divided.

Ahavah rabbah אהבה רבה

Love above intellect, present in every soul, rooted in the middos within Keser; all emotions are included in it without division.

Rivkah רבקה

Read as rivkah, a team of cattle tied together (Eruvin 17b): the image of ahavah rabbah, in which all the emotions are joined.

Akudim and Nekudim עקודים ונקודים

Early worlds of the Kabbalah: in Akudim all Sefiros are bound in one vessel (from Keser), in Nekudim they are separate points (from Chochmah).

The wealth of his house הון ביתו

The revelation of Keser, specifically its first three Sefiros, drawn by upper Daas into Torah and its detailed commandments.

Keser as intermediary כתר ממוצע

Keser joins the Emanator and the emanated: its first three Sefiros touch the Emanator, its seven lower are the root of the Sefiros.

SECTION 1 • 11-2

“If a man would give”

1 ביאור על הנ"ל

An explanation of the above.

This heading marks the maamar as a further explanation of the discourse just before it in Torah Ohr, which expounded the verse “Many waters cannot extinguish the love” (Song of Songs 8:7). Here the Alter Rebbe takes up the second half of that verse, “If a man would give all the wealth of his house,” and builds a fuller account of Daas to explain it.

2 להבין ביאור הדברים ע"פ אם יתן איש את כל הון ביתו באהבה² כו'. הנה אם הוא לשון כאשר.

To understand the explanation of the matter [stated] on the verse, “If a man would give all the wealth of his house for love,” etc. Now, “im” (if) is an expression of “when.”

The maamar opens with the word “im” in the verse “If a man would give all the wealth of his house for love.” Ordinarily “im” means “if” and implies doubt, but the Alter Rebbe argues that here it means “when.”

שיש אם שאין משמשיין בלשון ספק. אלא בלשון ודאי כמו אם כסף תלוה.³ ואם יהי [יהיה] היובל כו'

For there is an “im” that does not serve as an expression of doubt but as an expression of certainty, as in “Im (when) you lend money,” and “V'im (and when) the Jubilee shall be,” etc.

He brings two verses where “im” plainly does not express doubt: “when you lend money” (lending to the poor is a duty, not an option) and “when the Jubilee shall be” (the Jubilee year will certainly come).

שאין זה לשון ספק כלל אלא שבודאי יהיה הדבר ויבא ולשון אם אינו אלא לשון כאשר.

where this is not an expression of doubt at all; rather, the thing will certainly be and come about, and the word “im” is nothing but an expression of “when.”

In those verses the event is certain; “im” simply marks the time when it happens.

פי' כאשר כסף תלוה את העני לא תהיה לו כנושה וכן כאשר יהיה היובל כו'. וכמו"כ [וכמו כן] אם יתן איש כו'.

That is: when you lend money to the poor man, you shall not be to him as a creditor; and likewise, when the Jubilee shall be, etc. And so too, “If a man would give,” etc.

He spells out the reading of the two proof-verses and applies the same reading to our verse: not “if a man should give,” but “when a man gives.”

פ"י כאשר יתן איש כ"י שיתן בודאי. והיינו לעתיד (שיתן הוא לשון עתיד) שלע"ל [שלעתיד לבוא] יתן איש את כל הון ביתו.

means: when a man will give, etc., that he will certainly give. And this refers to the future (for "yiten," "would give," is the future tense): that in the Time to Come a man will give all the wealth of his house.

So the verse is a promise: a man certainly will give all the wealth of his house. Since "yiten" is future tense, the Alter Rebbe places this in the Time to Come, the era of the final redemption.

שבזה"ז [שבזמן הזה] אינו בא לידי גילוי להיות בבחי' זו שיתן כל הון ביתו. כ"א לעתיד דוקא.

For in this time it does not come to revelation, to be on this level, that one would give all the wealth of his house; but only in the Time to Come specifically.

Now, in the present era, this level (giving "all the wealth of his house") is not revealed; it belongs specifically to the future. The rest of the maamar explains what this "wealth" is and why it belongs to the future.

והענין כי הנה הון ביתו היינו כמו האוצרות והמטמונים שמונחים בתוך הבית. והוא ע"ד מ"ש ובדעת חדרים ימלאון⁴ כל הון יקר ונעים.^{5,6}

And the explanation: now, "the wealth of his house" is like the treasures and hidden stores that lie within the house. And this is along the lines of what is written, "And by Daas (knowledge) the chambers are filled with all precious and pleasant wealth."

"The wealth of his house" is the hidden treasure stored inside a house. The Alter Rebbe links it to Proverbs 24:4, where Daas fills the chambers with precious wealth; this sets up the maamar's theme, the role of Daas.

SECTION 2 • 13-10

Two orders of the Sefiros

3 והנה כתיב בחכמה יבנה בית⁷ ובתבונה יתכונן ובדעת חדרים ימלאון.⁸ פ"י בחכמה הוא רק עצם בנין הבית לבד שהן אותיות התורה שנק' בתים כנודע.

Now it is written, "With Chochmah (wisdom) a house is built, and with understanding it is established, and by Daas (knowledge) the chambers are filled." The explanation: "with Chochmah" is only the essential building of the house alone, which [refers to] the letters of the Torah, which are called "houses," as is known.

Proverbs 24:3-4 describes three stages in making a house: Chochmah builds it, understanding establishes it, Daas fills its rooms. The bare structure built by Chochmah is identified with the letters of the Torah, which are called "houses" (Sefer Yetzirah calls the letters "stones" and the words built of them "houses").

ובתבונה יתכונן פי עיקר קיום והעמדת תבנית ותוכן הבית ברכוי חדריו ומוצאיו ומובאיו הוא ע"י הבינה דייקא. אבל בדעת ימלאון כל החדרים בהון יקר כו'.

“And with understanding it is established” means: the main sustaining and setting up of the form and content of the house, with its many rooms and its exits and entrances, is through Binah (understanding) specifically. But “by Daas” all the chambers are filled with precious wealth, etc.

Binah is what gives the house its shape and inner layout; the Alter Rebbe hears in *tevunah* (“understanding”) and *yiskonen* (“it is established”) the words *tavnis* (“form”) and *tochen* (“content”). Binah sets up its many rooms, exits and entrances, the way understanding develops a bare insight into a detailed structure. Daas does something more: it fills those rooms with treasure.

ולהבין את כל זה צריך להקדים הקדמה אחת בביאור ענין סדר השתלשלות דייס [דיי ספירות] ⁹ דאצי איך הוא סדרם ואופןם.

To understand all this, we must first set down one introduction, explaining the matter of the order of the chain of descent (*hishtalshelus*) of the ten Sefiros of Atzilus: what their order and manner are.

To explain what Daas contributes, the Alter Rebbe first sets out how the ten Sefiros of Atzilus are ordered: how each emerges from the one before it.

ומצינו בזה בדברי המקובלים (בע"ח [בעץ חיים] ובפרדס) שני אופנים אשר לכאורה הם כמעט הפכים. האופן הא' שבחיי השתלשלות הם זה תחת זה.

Now we find on this, in the words of the Kabbalists (in *Etz Chaim* and in *Pardes*), two modes which, seemingly, are almost opposites. The first mode: that the levels of the *hishtalshelus* are one beneath the other.

The Kabbalistic sources (*Etz Chaim*, the Arizal's teachings as recorded by R. Chaim Vital, and *Pardes Rimonim* of R. Moshe Cordovero) describe two arrangements that seem almost contradictory. The first is a vertical chain, each Sefirah directly below the one before it.

דהיינו שבחיי בינה נאצלה מבחיי חכמה ובחיי דעת מבחיי בינה. וג' אלו הן ג"ר [ג' ראשונות]. ומהם נאצלו חג"ת [חסד גבורה תפארת] ג"כ ע"ד הנ"ל.

That is, the level of Binah was emanated from the level of Chochmah, and the level of Daas from the level of Binah. And these three are the first three [Sefiros]. And from them Chesed (kindness), Gevurah (restraint) and Tiferes (beauty) were emanated, likewise in the manner described above.

In this first model, Binah comes from Chochmah and Daas from Binah; these three are the intellectual Sefiros, “the first three.” The emotive Sefiros (Chesed, Gevurah, Tiferes and the rest) then emerge from them in the same step-by-step way.

4 והנה ציור גשמי הלז הוא עד"מ מבשרי אחזה¹⁰ כו'. כמו עשר כחות הנפש שמתלבשים בתוך אברי הגוף שראשית הגילוי הוא בחכמה שהיא בחי' הברקת השכל בבחי' נקודה כו'.

Now this physical depiction is, by way of analogy, [as in] "From my flesh I behold," etc.: like the ten powers of the soul that are clothed within the limbs of the body, where the first revelation is in Chochmah, which is the level of the flash of intellect, in the manner of a point, etc.

The Alter Rebbe grounds this vertical model in human experience, per Job's "From my flesh I behold [G-d]": we learn about the divine from the structure of our own soul. In the soul's ten powers, the first to appear is Chochmah, a sudden flash of insight, like a point without dimensions.

ונק' חכמה כח מ"ה [מה]¹¹ כו' לפי שעדיין אינה מושגת ונק' בחי' יי נקודה כו' וממנה נמשכת בחי' בינה התפשטות ההשגה באורך ורוחב.

And Chochmah is called "ko'ach mah" (the potential of "what"), etc., because it is not yet grasped; and it is called the level of the yud, a point, etc. And from it the level of Binah is drawn forth: the expansion of comprehension in length and breadth.

Chochmah is called "ko'ach mah," "the potential of 'what'" (the letters of chochmah rearranged; the Kehot note gives the introduction to Tikkunei Zohar): a seed of insight not yet grasped or articulated. It corresponds to the letter yud, a mere point. From it comes Binah, which develops that point, expanding it "in length and breadth" into full comprehension.

5 והוא בחי' ה' כו' והן הם אב ואם המולידות את המדות אהוי"ר [אהבה ויראה] כי לפי שכלו והתבוננותו בדבר הוא מוליד אהבה לדבר ההוא או יראה ממנו כו'.

This is the level of the hei, etc. And these are the father and mother that give birth to the emotive attributes (middos), love and awe; for according to his intellect and his contemplation of a thing, he gives birth to love for that thing or awe of it, etc.

Binah corresponds to the letter hei, whose shape has length and breadth. Chochmah and Binah together are the "father and mother" of the emotions: contemplating a subject gives rise to love for it or awe of it, according to what the mind grasps.

וכמו"כ [וכמו כן] למעלה בעולם האצ"י בסדר השתלשלות הי"ס [היי ספירות] בחי' ח"ע [חכמה עילאה] דאצ"י היא ראשית הגילוי והיא בחי' יי של שם הוי' שעדיין אינה בבחי' גילוי והחכמה מאין תמצא¹²

So too above, in the World of Atzilus, in the order of the chain of descent of the ten Sefiros: the level of supernal Chochmah of Atzilus is the beginning of revelation, and it is the level of the yud of the Name Havayah, which is not yet in a state of revelation, "and Chochmah is found from ayin (nothingness)";

The same is true above, in Atzilus: supernal Chochmah is the first point of revelation, the yud of the Name Havayah, a point still hidden. It is "found from ayin": it emerges from the unknowable level above it (Keser).

ולכן התלבשות אור א"ס בחכמה דוקא ומבחי' חכמה נמשכה בחי' בינה דאצי' שהוא בחי' גילוי ההתפשטות באורך ורוחב הנקי ה'.

and therefore the Infinite Light (Or Ein Sof) is clothed in Chochmah specifically. And from the level of Chochmah the level of Binah of Atzilus was drawn forth, which is the level of the revelation of expansion in length and breadth, called the hei,

Because Chochmah is so close to its source, the Infinite Light is clothed specifically in it. From Chochmah comes the Binah of Atzilus, the expanded, revealed stage, which corresponds to the upper hei of the Name.

6 ונקי' אם הבנים.¹³ והאופן הב' של סדר ההשתלשלות שהם בציוור ג' קווין חח"ן [חכמה חסד נצח] בקו ימין כו'.

and it is called "the mother of the children." And the second mode of the order of the chain of descent is that they are in the form of three lines: Chochmah, Chesed and Netzach in the right line, etc.

Binah is called "the mother of the children" because the middos are born from it. Now the second Kabbalistic model: the Sefiros are arranged not in a single column but in three parallel lines, Chochmah, Chesed and Netzach on the right (with Binah, Gevurah and Hod on the left, and the middle line between them).

נמצא לפי סדר זה בחי' חב"ד [חכמה בינה ודעת] אין נמשכות זו מזו. וגם המדות כולן אין עיקר המשכתן מן הג"ר [הג' ראשונות] מאחר שחוי"ב [שחכמה ובינה] עומדות בב' קווין מקבילות כו'.

It follows that according to this order, the levels of Chochmah, Binah and Daas are not drawn one from another. And also, none of the middos derives mainly from the first three [Sefiros], since Chochmah and Binah stand in two parallel lines, etc.

In this three-line model, Chochmah, Binah and Daas do not come one from another, since Chochmah and Binah stand side by side in two separate lines. Nor do the middos mainly come from the three intellectual Sefiros; they seem to have a different source.

7 והנה עיקר ההפרש שבין ב' הבחי' בסדר ההשתלשלות הנ"ל הוא בב' אופנים. הא' שלפי סדר הא' שחב"ד [שחכמה בינה ודעת] הם זו תחת זו נמצא שהדעת עומד למטה מחוי"ב [מחכמה ובינה].

Now the main difference between the two modes in the order of the chain of descent mentioned above is in two respects. The first: according to the first order, in which Chochmah, Binah and Daas are one beneath the other, it follows that Daas stands below Chochmah and Binah

The two models differ in two ways. First, where Daas stands: in the vertical model, Daas is below Chochmah and Binah.

ולמעלה מחו"ג [מחסד וגבורה] כי הוא ממשיך הארת החו"ב [החכמה ובינה] לחו"ג [לחסד וגבורה]. משא"כ לפי סדר הב' שהם בג' קווין

and above Chesed and Gevurah, for it is what draws the illumination of Chochmah and Binah into Chesed and Gevurah. This is not so according to the second order, in which they are in three lines:

In the vertical model Daas is above Chesed and Gevurah, a bridge that passes the light of the intellect down to the emotions. In the three-line model it is different.

נמצא שהדעת הוא בקו האמצעי ואינו עומד תחת חו"ב [חכמה ובינה] רק תחת הכתר והוא ממשיך הארת הכתר לחו"ב [לחכמה ובינה] ולחו"ג [לחסד וגבורה] כמשי"ת [כמו שיתבאר].

it follows that Daas is in the middle line and does not stand beneath Chochmah and Binah, but only beneath Keser (the Crown), and it draws the illumination of Keser into Chochmah and Binah and into Chesed and Gevurah, as will be explained.

Daas sits in the middle line directly beneath Keser, not beneath Chochmah and Binah. So its role is to draw the light of Keser, which is above intellect, into both the intellect (Chochmah and Binah) and the emotions (Chesed and Gevurah).

8 והב' שלפי סדר הא' עיקר הולדת ומציאו' [ומציאות] המדות הוא מחו"ב [מחכמה ובינה] ע"י הדעת הממשיך כנ"ל.

And the second: according to the first order, the main birth and existence of the middos is from Chochmah and Binah, through Daas which draws [them] down, as above.

The second difference concerns where the middos come from. In the vertical model they are born from Chochmah and Binah, with Daas as the channel.

משא"כ לפי סדר הב' הן נמשכות מבחי' הכתר ע"י הדעת הממשיך בהן הארת הכתר דוקא. והענין הוא דשניהם אמת.

This is not so according to the second order: they are drawn from the level of Keser, through Daas, which draws into them the illumination of Keser specifically. And the explanation is that both are true.

In the three-line model the middos come from Keser, and Daas draws the light of Keser into them. The Alter Rebbe states that both models are true: each describes a different kind of emotion, as he now explains.

9 ויובן זה ע"פ מה שנודע שיש ב' בחי' דעת.¹⁴ דעת עליון ודעת תחתון. דעת העליון הוא הנמשך מבחי'

הכתר ומחבר ומייחד לחי"ב [לחכמה ובינה] וחוי"ג [וחסד וגבורה]

This will be understood from what is known, that there are two levels of Daas: upper Daas and lower Daas. Upper Daas is that which is drawn from the level of Keser and connects and unites Chochmah and Binah, and Chesed and Gevurah,

The resolution rests on two kinds of Daas. Upper Daas comes from Keser and binds together Chochmah and Binah, and Chesed and Gevurah, from above.

ע"י הארת הכתר ודעת התחתון הוא הדעת המתפשט בתוך המדות להמשיך בהן הארת חי"ב [חכמה ובינה]. וגם הנה נודע שיש ב' בחי' ¹⁵ מדות.

through the illumination of Keser. And lower Daas is the Daas that spreads within the middos, to draw into them the illumination of Chochmah and Binah. And it is also known that there are two levels of middos.

Upper Daas unites them through the light of Keser, while lower Daas spreads down into the emotions and carries the light of the intellect into them. Correspondingly, there are two kinds of middos.

הא' מדות שעיקר מציאותן הוא מחי"ב [מחכמה ובינה] עד"מ באדם למטה כשהמדות הן רק לפי השכל שהשכל הוא המולידן וקטן ששכלו קצר כו'.

The first: middos whose main existence is from Chochmah and Binah — by way of analogy, in man below, when the middos are only according to the intellect, for the intellect is what gives birth to them; and a child, whose intellect is short, etc.

The first kind are emotions produced by understanding, as in a person whose feelings follow his reasoning. A child, whose understanding is limited, has correspondingly limited emotions; so these emotions depend on the intellect.

והב' הוא בחי' המדות שמקורן ושרשן למעלה מן השכל רק שיוצאין ונמשכין דרך השכל וכמ"ש בר"מ [ברע"א מהימנא] ¹⁶ דז"א בעתיקא אחיד ותליא כו' וכמ"ש באריכות במ"א:

And the second is the level of middos whose source and root are above the intellect, only that they go out and are drawn by way of the intellect; as is written in the Ra'aya Mehemna that Z'eir Anpin is attached to and hangs upon Atika, etc., and as is explained at length elsewhere.

The second kind are emotions whose root is above intellect; they merely pass through the intellect on their way out. The Zohar's phrase "Z'eir Anpin is attached to and hangs upon Atika" expresses this (the text names the Ra'aya Mehemna, "the Faithful Shepherd," a section of the Zohar; the Kehot note places the saying at Zohar III 292a, in the Idra Zuta): the emotive configuration (Z'eir Anpin) is rooted directly in Atika, the inner level of Keser, not only in the intellect.

10 ומעתה יובנו ויבוארו ב' הבחי' בסדר ההשתלשלות על נכון. כי הנה הסדר הב' שהן בג' קווין כו' היינו

בענין המדות שאין עיקר מציאותן מחו"ב [מחכמה ובינה] כ"א מבחי' הכתר שמאיר בהן

And now the two levels in the order of the chain of descent will be properly understood and explained. For the second order, in which they are in three lines, etc., concerns the middos whose main existence is not from Chochmah and Binah but from the level of Keser, which shines in them,

Now the two models fit together. The three-line model describes the emotions whose main source is not intellect but Keser, shining into them.

וכמאמר דז"א בעתיקא אחיד ותליא הנ"ל והיינו ע"י בחינת דעת העליון הנ"ל שהוא מבחי' הכתר ומחבר ומייחד בחינת חו"ב [חכמה ובינה] כו' שנמצא בחינת הדעת עומד בין חו"ב [חכמה ובינה] ותחת הכתר כו'.

as in the saying mentioned above, that "Z'eir Anpin is attached to and hangs upon Atika." And this is through the level of upper Daas mentioned above, which is from the level of Keser and connects and unites the level of Chochmah and Binah, etc., so that the level of Daas turns out to stand between Chochmah and Binah and beneath Keser, etc.

This matches the Zohar's statement that Z'eir Anpin hangs on Atika. It works through upper Daas, which comes from Keser and unites Chochmah and Binah; that is why, in this model, Daas stands between Chochmah and Binah, directly beneath Keser.

משא"כ סדר הא' היינו בבחינת המדות שמציאותן הוא רק מן השכל והיינו ע"י בחינת דעת התחתון המתפשט בתוך המדות ומאיר בהן הארת חו"ב [חכמה ובינה] כו'.

Whereas the first order concerns the level of the middos whose existence is only from the intellect; and this is through the level of lower Daas, which spreads within the middos and shines into them the illumination of Chochmah and Binah, etc.

The vertical model describes the emotions that come only from intellect, through lower Daas, which spreads into the middos and brings the light of Chochmah and Binah into them.

SECTION 3 • 11-13

Lower Daas refines the emotions

11 ולהבין כל הדברים הנ"ל בתוספת ביאור צריך להבין תחלה בחי' הדעת מהו. ומתחלה נבאר בחי' הדעת התחתון וממנו יובן בחי' דעת העליון. דהנה כבר נתבאר למעלה כי עיקר הולדת המדות הוא מחו"ב [מחכמה ובינה].

To understand all the above with further explanation, we must first understand what the level of Daas is. And first we will explain the level of lower Daas, and from it the level of upper Daas will be understood. For it was already explained above that the main birth of the middos is from Chochmah and Binah.

To go deeper, the Alter Rebbe will first define Daas itself, beginning with lower Daas, which is closer to experience, and from it derive upper Daas. The starting point: as shown above, the middos are mainly born from Chochmah and Binah, so what does Daas add?

12 וצריך להבין בחי' דעת מהו משמש.¹⁷ אך הענין הוא דהדעת בכל מקום הוא מבחי' הפנימית.

We need to understand what function Daas serves. But the matter is that Daas, everywhere, is of the level of the inner [dimension].

What does Daas add, if the emotions are already born from Chochmah and Binah? The answer: Daas always belongs to the inner dimension of whatever it is in.

וכמו"כ [וכמו כן] כאן בחי' הדעת המתפשט בתוך המדות הוא פנימי [פנימיות / פנימית] המדות שהוא תכלית הברור שלהן כי הדעת

So too here, the level of Daas that spreads within the middos is the inner dimension (pnimiyus) of the middos, which is their ultimate refinement. For Daas

Lower Daas, spreading within the emotions, is their inner core, and it is what brings them to their final, refined state.

היינו התקשרות ומחמת התקשרות בחי' חו"ב [חכמה ובינה] בתוך המדות מברר ומבדיל בין טו"ר [טוב ורע] שלא תהיינה המדות מעורבות טו"ר [טוב ורע] כי המדות בטבען כתולדותן יכולות להיות מעורבות טו"ר [טוב ורע].

means connection; and because of the connection of the level of Chochmah and Binah within the middos, it refines and distinguishes between good and evil, so that the middos will not be mixed of good and evil. For the middos, by their nature, as they are born, can be mixed of good and evil.

Daas means connection (as in "Adam knew Chavah": attachment). Through Daas, the insight of Chochmah and Binah is bonded into the emotions, and this bond sorts good from evil in them. Left to themselves, emotions as they are first born can be a mixture of good and bad.

13 ולכן יניקת החיצוניי [החיצונים] הן מן המדות כמו אברהם שיצא ממנו ישמעאל^{18, 19} כו'. וכמו"כ [וכמו כן] בעבודת ה' מבחי' האהבה וההתפעלות כרשפי אש²⁰ על ידי ההתבוננות בגדולת ה' בשעת התפלה יוכל לבא אח"כ לידי כעס.

Therefore the nurture of the external [forces] is from the middos, as with Avraham, from whom Yishmael came forth, etc. And so too in the service of G-d: from the level of love and the arousal "like flashes of fire," [that comes] through contemplating the greatness of G-d during prayer, one can afterwards come to anger.

Because emotions can be mixed, the "external forces" (kelipah, the forces opposed to holiness) draw their nurture from them. The Sages' example: from Avraham, the embodiment of Chesed, came Yishmael, kindness in a spoiled form. So too a person may pray with fiery love after contemplating G-d's greatness, and later that day come to anger.

ומוכרח להיות שגם בשעת התפלה היה קצת תערובת זר. שאם היתה בבחי' אלקות לבד שהוא גילוי אור ה' על נפשו בשעת התפלה.

It must necessarily be that even during prayer there was some slight admixture of something foreign. For if it had been of the level of G-dliness alone, which is the revelation of G-d's light upon his soul during prayer,

The Alter Rebbe infers that even the fiery love in prayer must have held a trace of something foreign. Had it been pure G-dliness, a revelation of G-d's light upon the soul, it could not have led to anything foreign afterwards.

מאין בא אח"כ לידי כעס וכדומה שהוא בחי' יניקת החיצוני [החיצונים]. כנודע שאין יניקת החיצונים רק מבחי' אחוריים דשם אלקים שהוא ענין בחי' ההסתר כו'

from where would he afterwards come to anger and the like, which is the level of the nurture of the external [forces]? As is known, the external forces draw nurture only from the level of the back (achorayim) of the Name Elokim, which is the matter of the level of concealment, etc.

The later anger could not have come from pure G-dliness, since the external forces feed only from the "back" of the Name Elokim, the aspect of divine concealment. Pure revelation gives them nothing to feed on.

(וצ"ע [וצריך עיון] בתניא פכ"ח וצ"ל דמ"ש כאן קצת תערובת זר היינו מצד התלבשות הנה"ב [הנפש הבהמית] והמדות שבה הן הם המעורבות טו"ר [טוב ורע]. ולפי שהנפש האלקי מלובשת בה כו'. וההוכחה היא שגם בשעת התפלה לא יצאה מנרתקה ומהתלבשותה לגמרי מכל וכל כו'.

(And this requires examination [in light of] Tanya, chapter 28. And one must say that what is said here, "some slight admixture of something foreign," is on account of the clothing in the animal soul, whose middos are the ones that are mixed of good and evil; and because the G-dly soul is clothed in it, etc. And the proof is that even during prayer it did not leave its sheath and its clothing entirely, altogether, etc.

A parenthetical qualification: Tanya ch. 28 seems to say otherwise (that foreign thoughts during prayer do not show that the prayer was flawed). The note reconciles the two: the "admixture" is not in the G-dly soul's love itself but comes from the animal soul, whose emotions are mixed, and in which the G-dly soul is clothed. Even in prayer the G-dly soul does not fully leave that "sheath."

והיינו ממש כמש"ש [כמה שכתוב שם] פכ"ח שהקליפה מתאמצת כו'. וגם מן הראי" [הראייה] שיתבאר מעובדא דר"ח [דרכי חנינא] ב"ת [בן תרדיון] משמע ג"כ כמ"ש דהתם ג"כ קס"ד שטעה בנפשו מחמת טבעיות נפשו הבהמית שאפשר שסייעה בעבודתו כמשי"ת [כמו שיתבאר]:

And this is exactly as is written there in chapter 28, that the kelipah exerts itself, etc. And also from the proof that will be explained from the incident of Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon it is implied likewise, as stated, for there too it entered his mind that he had erred about himself because of the naturalness of his animal soul, which may have assisted in his service, as will be explained.)

This matches Tanya ch. 28, which says the kelipah exerts itself to confront a person who prays. And the story of Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon, told next, points the same way: he worried that his animal soul's natural temperament had helped drive his devotion.

SECTION 4 • ¶14-22

Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon's test

14 ובוהן מעשה דר' [דרבין] יוסי בן קיסמא²¹ עם ר' [רבין] חנינא בן תרדיון שאמר תמה אני אם לא ישרפו אותך כו'. והשיבו מן השמים ירחמו וא"ל [ואמר ליה] אני אומר לך דברי טעם כו'.

With this will be understood the story of Rabbi Yose ben Kisma with Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon, [to whom] he said, "I will be amazed if they do not burn you," etc. And he answered him, "Heaven will have mercy"; and he said to him, "I am telling you words of reason," etc.

The Alter Rebbe now brings a Talmudic story as evidence. When Rabbi Yose ben Kisma was ill, Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon visited him. Rabbi Yose told him that Rome ruled by Heaven's decree and he was defying it by teaching Torah in public: "I wonder if they will not burn you." Rabbi Chanina replied, "Heaven will have mercy," and Rabbi Yose answered, "I am telling you reasoned words, and you say 'Heaven will have mercy'?"

15 וא"ל [ואמר ליה] ר"ח [רבי חנינא] מה אני לחיי עוה"ב [עולם הבא].²² וא"ל [ואמר ליה] כלום מעשה כו'. והשיבו מעות פורים וכי וחלקתים לעניים.

And Rabbi Chanina said to him, "What am I [destined for] as to the life of the World to Come?" And he said to him, "Has any deed come to your hand?" etc. And he answered him, "Purim money," etc., "and I divided it among the poor."

Rabbi Chanina then asked about his own fate in the World to Come. Rabbi Yose asked whether any particular deed had come his way, and Rabbi Chanina told him that his Purim funds had become mixed up with charity funds, and he distributed all of it to the poor.

ע"כ [עד כאן]. ולכאורה מאד תמוה שאלתו מה הוא לעוה"ב [לעולם הבא]. אם הוא מוסר נפשו על קדוה"ש [קידוש השם] שהי' [שהיה] מקהיל קהלוי' [קהלות] ברכים לא יהי' [יהיה] לו עדיין חלק לעוה"ב [לעולם הבא].

End of quote. Now, seemingly, his question, what [awaits] him in the World to Come, is very puzzling: if he is giving up his life for the sanctification of G-d's Name, in that he was gathering assemblies in public, would he still not have a share in the World to Come?

The question is puzzling: Rabbi Chanina was risking martyrdom by gathering crowds to study Torah in public, a supreme sanctification of G-d's Name. How could he doubt his share in the World to Come?

16 וגם מה שאל ר' [רבין] יוסי כלום מעשה בא לידך. מהו התשובה על שאלתו כו'. אך הענין שהי' [שהיה] ר'

[רבין] חנינא בן תרדיון מסופק בעצמו ענין מסירת

And also, what did Rabbi Yose ask, "Has any deed come to your hand?" What kind of answer is this to his question? etc. But the matter is that Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon was in doubt about himself concerning the matter of his giving up

A second difficulty: how does Rabbi Yose's question about a deed answer anything? The Alter Rebbe's answer: Rabbi Chanina was unsure about the purity of his own self-sacrifice.

נפשו בשביל עסק התורה אם הוא באמיתות לש"ש [לשם שמים] בלבד אף שהי' [שהיה] צדיק מופלג ולומד לשמה באמת מ"מ לפי שיש בני"א [בני אדם] שמצד טבעו ומזגו ומדותיו להמשיך חשק ותשוקת כל לבבו אל למוד החכמות.

his life for the sake of occupying himself with Torah: whether it was truly for the sake of Heaven alone. Although he was an outstanding tzaddik and truly studied for its own sake, nevertheless, since there are people who, by their nature, their temperament and their middos, draw the desire and longing of their whole heart to the study of the sciences,

He doubted whether his giving up his life for Torah study was truly for Heaven's sake alone. He was a great tzaddik who studied Torah for its own sake, but some people are drawn to intellectual pursuits by temperament alone, and he feared that some of his passion might come from such a natural disposition.

17 ולהיות תמיד מחשבתו ולבו ושכלו דבוק בהן. והראי' [והראיה] מהפילסופים מהאומות הקדמונים שהיו שרים גדולים לא יחסר להם כל מעדני עולם.

and for their thought, heart and intellect to be always attached to them. And the proof is from the philosophers of the ancient nations, who were great ministers lacking none of the world's delicacies,

Such people want their minds and hearts always absorbed in study. The proof is the ancient philosophers, wealthy nobles with every luxury.

היו עוזבים כל תענוגי' ועוסקים בכל לבבם ותשוקת נפשם בלמוד החכמות. כל היום והלילה אין מחשבתו פנויה.

[yet] they would leave all pleasures and occupy themselves with all their heart and the longing of their soul in the study of the sciences; all day and night his thought is not free

Yet these philosophers gave up all pleasures to devote themselves wholeheartedly to learning, their minds occupied day and night.

18 ולהבין ולהעמיק בענין החכמות ותערב לנפשו ותתענג בהם כ"כ [כל כך] כמו זולתו בכל תענוגי העולם. וזה אינו להם מצד אמונתם

[from seeking] to understand and to go deeply into the matter of the sciences, and it is pleasant to his soul and he delights in them as much as another [delights] in all the pleasures of the world. And this was not for them on account of their faith,

They delved into the sciences and found in them a pleasure equal to what others find in worldly delights. This did not come from their religious faith.

שהם היו גוים עובדי כוכבים שאין להם שום הכרח ואמונה שיגרום להם סבת עסקם בחכמותיהם בתכונה ותשכורת ופילסופיא חכמת החיצוניי [החיצוניים] תענוג נפלא כ"א מצד מזג טבעם מאד תכריח בחשק נפלא שנולד בטבע כזה.

for they were star-worshipping gentiles, who have no compulsion or faith that would cause them to have, in their occupation with their sciences — astronomy, mathematics and philosophy, external wisdom — a wondrous delight; but only on account of the temperament of their nature, which compels [them] very strongly, with a wondrous desire that is born in such a nature.

As idolaters, they had no religious duty or belief that would make astronomy, mathematics and philosophy a source of such joy. It came from their inborn temperament, which gave them an extraordinary desire for these studies.

19 ויש מהם נולד במזג אחר שלא יתאוה ויחשוק לחכמות אף כי יבינם אין לו תענוג להשים מחשבתו בהם אפ"י [אפילו] רגע אחת רק אחר שרירות לבו רק רע כל היום²³ לזאת תכלה נפשו.

And there is one among them born with a different temperament, who does not crave and desire the sciences; even though he understands them, he has no pleasure in setting his thought on them even for one moment, but only after the stubbornness of his heart, "only evil all the day"; for this his soul yearns.

Others are born with the opposite temperament: even when they can understand intellectual matters, they cannot enjoy thinking about them for a moment and follow only their heart's desires. The phrases "the stubbornness of his heart" (a frequent biblical idiom) and "only evil all the day" (Genesis 6:5) are borrowed from Scripture.

20 וסבת זה הוא מצד המרות. יש שגובר בו מרה הלכנה שאין ביכלתו לצמצם מחשבתו בדבר א' אף שהוא שכלי ולא יתענג בו כלל.

And the cause of this is the humors. There is one in whom white bile dominates, who is unable to concentrate his thought on one thing, even though it is intellectual, and he takes no delight in it at all.

The Alter Rebbe explains these differences, following the medicine of his day, by the bodily humors. One in whom "white bile" dominates cannot hold his mind on a single subject and finds no pleasure even in intellectual matters.

ויש שגובר בו מרה שחורה בתולדתו תשתוקק נפשו מאד אל החכמה כל חפציה לא ישוו בה כאשׁ [כאשר] כ"ז [כל זה] מבואר בח"פ [בשמונה פרקים] להרמב"ם [להרבי משה בן מימון] ע"ש פ"ח [פרק ח'].²⁴

And there is one in whom black bile dominates from birth: his soul longs greatly for wisdom, "all [other] desires cannot compare to it" — as all this is explained in the Rambam's Eight Chapters; see there, chapter 8.

One born with a dominance of "black bile" (the melancholic temperament) longs intensely for wisdom and values it above everything, in the words Proverbs uses of wisdom (3:15; 8:11). The Alter Rebbe cites Maimonides' Eight Chapters, chapter 8, on innate temperaments.

21 ולכן גם בישראל ימצא טבעיים מחולקים כמותם. אך שתמשיך נפשו לדבר הנהוג בישראל כמו ענין למוד התורה שבע"פ [שבעל פה]. יחשוק נפשו ולבו להגות בה יום ולילה לא ישבות.

Therefore among Jews too one will find natures divided like theirs; but [in a Jew] his soul will be drawn to a thing customary among Jews, such as the study of the Oral Torah: his soul and heart will long to meditate in it day and night without ceasing.

The same range of temperaments exists among Jews, but a Jew's natural bent is channeled into something Jews value, such as the study of the Oral Torah, so that he longs to study it day and night.

ולפיכך ר"ח [רבי חנינא] ב"ת [בן תרדיון] היה ירא שמא גם מצד טבעו גופני גורם לו מסירת נפשו בעד החכמה אף שבודאי אינו אלא מעט מזער מ"מ אין זה לה' לבדו²⁵ כו'.

Therefore Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon feared that perhaps his bodily nature too was causing his self-sacrifice for the sake of wisdom. Although it was certainly only a tiny bit, nevertheless this is not "to Havayah alone," etc.

Hence Rabbi Chanina's fear: that his bodily temperament contributed, even slightly, to his readiness to die for Torah. Even a tiny natural motive would mean his devotion was not purely "to G-d alone."

22 ושאל מר' [מרבין] יוסי היאך הוא משיג בו. אם הוא מנוחלי העוה"ב [העולם הבא] שאין בלבו אלא אחד כו'. והשיבו זה לא יבורר כ"א אם בא מעשה לידך.²⁶

And he asked Rabbi Yose how he could ascertain this about himself: whether he is among those who inherit the World to Come, in whose heart there is only One, etc. And he answered him: this can be clarified only if a deed has come to your hand.

Rabbi Chanina asked how he could know whether he truly belonged to the World to Come, whether his heart held only G-d. Rabbi Yose said that only a real-life test ("a deed that comes to your hand") could reveal it.

פ"י נסיון שהחילוק בו שאם הוא מצד טבע הגוף אף שיחשוק חשק נפלא עכ"פ [על כל פנים] לא יגיע למס"נ [למסירות נפש] כו' ואמר לו שמעות פורים כו'

That is, a test, in which the distinction [lies]: if it comes from the nature of the body, then even though he desires with a wondrous desire, in any case it will not reach self-sacrifice (mesirus nefesh), etc. And he told him that the Purim money, etc.,

The test works like this: a desire that comes from bodily nature, however strong, will not bring a person to give up his life. Rabbi Chanina's answer about the Purim money supplied the proof.

שהוא ענין פיזור ממון שזה אות ומופת שאין במס"נ [במסירות נפש] שלו אפילו שרש המרה כו'. שמדת המרה שחורה הנ"ל גורמת מדת הקמצנות.

which is a matter of distributing money — this is a sign and proof that in his self-sacrifice there is not even the root of the humor, etc. For the trait of black bile mentioned above causes the trait of miserliness,

Giving away money freely is the opposite of the trait that goes with black bile, which makes a person miserly. Since Rabbi Chanina was generous, his self-sacrifice did not even have the root of that temperament.

SECTION 5 • ¶23-24

Ahavas olam, ahavah rabbah and Rivkah

23 והמרה הלבנה הפיזור כו' לכן השיבו א"כ מחלקך יהא חלקי²⁷ שמזה מובן שמס"נ [שמסירות נפש] על התורה הוא רק לפי שאין בלבו אלא אחד ואין בו תערובת טבעית כלל.

and white bile [causes] distributing [money], etc. Therefore he answered him, "If so, may my portion be of your portion." From this it is understood that his self-sacrifice for the Torah is only because in his heart there is only One, and there is no natural admixture in it at all.

White bile, by contrast, goes with generosity. So Rabbi Yose concluded, "If so, may my portion be like yours": Rabbi Chanina's readiness to die for the Torah came only from a heart devoted to the One G-d, with no natural motive mixed in.

ומכ"ז [ומכל זה] מובן שיוכל להיות במדות הנפש בחי' תערובת שאפי' [שאפילו] במדה שנראה ודאי טוב גמור יוכל להיות שיש בזה עדיין קצת תערובת כו'.

From all this it is understood that there can be, in the middos of the soul, a level of admixture, so that even in a middah that seems certainly entirely good, it can be that there is still some slight admixture in it, etc.

The general lesson: emotions can contain a hidden admixture, so that even a trait that looks wholly good may still carry a trace of something else.

ולכן כדי שיהי' [שיהיה] בירור המדות לתכליתן הוא ע"י בחי' הדעת. והיינו שהוא ממשיך פנימי' [פנימיות] / פנימית] המדות

Therefore, for there to be refinement of the middos to their ultimate [degree], it is through the level of Daas; that is, it draws out the inner dimension of the middos.

So the complete refinement of the emotions comes through Daas, which draws out their inner dimension.

כי עיקר תערובת טו"ר [טוב ורע] זה שייך בחיצוני' הלב משא"כ בבחי' פנימי' [פנימיות / פנימית] הלב כו' (עיי' מש"ל [מה שכתוב לעיל] בסוף ד"ה להבין ענין הברכות כו').

For this admixture of good and evil pertains mainly to the outer dimension of the heart, which is not so in the level of the inner dimension of the heart, etc. (See what was written above, at the end of the discourse beginning "To understand the matter of the blessings," etc.)

Mixture of good and evil belongs mainly to the outer dimension of the heart, its surface feelings; the inner point of the heart is not subject to it. The parenthesis refers to the end of "To understand the matter of the blessings" (Torah Ohr, Bereishis), which explains that once the emotions are revealed, clothed in the body and the animal soul, the kelipos can take hold of them, so a "seal" from above is needed to keep them apart.

והנה כ"ז [כל זה] בבחי' דעת התחתון המתפשט במדות אהוי"ר [אהבה ויראה]. שהדעת הזה הוא תחת הבינה ואהבה שנולדה מהבינה והדעת נק' אהבת עולם.

Now all this is on the level of lower Daas, which spreads into the middos of love and awe. For this Daas is beneath Binah; and the love that is born from Binah and Daas is called ahavas olam (worldly love).

All this describes lower Daas, which spreads into love and awe and stands beneath Binah. The love born from Binah and lower Daas is "ahavas olam": love that grows from contemplating G-d as He gives life to the world.

ובזוהר נק' אהבה זוטא. ומתוך זה נוכל להבין ג"כ בבחי' דעת העליון. כי הנה יש ב' מיני מדות.²⁸

And in the Zohar it is called ahavah zuta (lesser love). And from this we can also understand the level of upper Daas. For there are two kinds of middos.

The Zohar calls it "ahavah zuta," the lesser love. From lower Daas we can now understand upper Daas, by distinguishing two kinds of middos.

הא' המדות הנולדי' מהשכל וכשהם נולדים ונמשכים מהשכל ע"י הדעת אז הם בבחי' פנימיות ובכירור יותר מכל סיג.

The first: the middos that are born from the intellect; and when they are born and drawn from the intellect through Daas, they are in a state of inwardness, and refined, more [free] from all dross.

The first kind is emotions born from intellect; when Daas draws them from the intellect, they become inward and more refined, cleaner of dross.

24 והב' הם המדות שלמעלה מהשכל. ונק' אהבה רבה שיש בכל נפש. ולמעלה הוא בחי' מדות שבכתר

חוי"ג [חסד וגבורה] דא"א²⁹

And the second are the middos that are above the intellect; [this love] is called ahavah rabbah (great love), which is in every soul. And above, it is the level of the middos within Keser: the Chesed and Gevurah of Arich Anpin,

The second kind of emotion is above intellect: "ahavah rabbah," the great love latent in every soul. Its source above is the middos within Keser, the Chesed and Gevurah of Arich Anpin (the outer level of Keser).

שהם למעלה מהשכל שהוא חוי"ב [חכמה ובינה] רק שנמשכים דרך מעבר בחוי"ב [בחכמה ובינה]. והם נמשכים ע"י הדעת שעומד בקו האמצעי. מכוון תחת הכתר.

which are above the intellect, that is, Chochmah and Binah, only that they are drawn by way of passage through Chochmah and Binah. And they are drawn through the Daas that stands in the middle line, aligned directly beneath Keser.

These emotions of Keser are higher than Chochmah and Binah, though they pass through them on the way down. They are drawn down through the Daas of the middle line, which stands directly below Keser.

משא"כ חו"ב [חכמה ובינה] הם חח"ן [חכמה חסד נצח] מימין בג"ה [בינה גבורה הוד] משמאל לכן ע"י הדעת זה נמשכים המדות דכתר שהם מדות שלמעלה מהשכל להיות נמשכין בז"א.

Whereas Chochmah and Binah are Chochmah, Chesed and Netzach on the right [and] Binah, Gevurah and Hod on the left. Therefore, through this Daas, the middos of Keser, which are middos above the intellect, are drawn so as to be drawn into Z'eir Anpin.

Chochmah and Binah are on the two side lines (right and left), so only the middle-line Daas is in a position to carry the middos of Keser straight down into Z'eir Anpin, the emotive Sefiros of Atzilus.

ולמטה הוא הגילוי במדות שכלב כו' וכח"י אה"ר [אהבה רבה] זו ישנה ג"כ בכל א' וכמ"ש בתניא (ס"פ מ"ו)³⁰ ע"פ בהמות הייתי עמך³¹ בהמות לשון רבים כו' דעת העליון הכולל חו"ג [חסד וגבורה]³² כו' ע"ש.

And below, it is the revelation in the middos of the heart, etc. And this level of ahavah rabbah is also present in everyone, as is written in Tanya (end of chapter 46) on the verse, "I was as beasts (behemos) with You" — behemos is plural, etc., the upper Daas that includes Chesed and Gevurah, etc.; see there.

Below, in the person, this appears as the heart's emotions. The end of Tanya ch. 46 reads "I was as beasts with You, yet I am always with You" as said for every Jew: even one who does not feel this love is always united with G-d. It adds that the plural behemos hints that before G-d even upper Daas, which includes Chesed and Gevurah, is like "beasts" beside the Infinite Light.

וזהו ענין רבקה שהוא בח"י קשר וחבור של שלש³³ או ארבע בקר יחד להיותה בח"י אה"ר [אהבה רבה] שהוא המדות שלמעלה מהשכל שהם בחינת התכללות כל המדות יחד ואין בהם התחלקות כלל

And this is the idea of Rivkah, which is the level of a tie and binding together of three or four cattle; for she is the level of ahavah rabbah, which is the middos above the intellect, which are the level of the inclusion of all the middos together, with no division among them at all

Hence Rivkah (Rivkah). In the Mishnah a rivkah is a team of three or four cattle tied together, so the name Rivkah is read as that "tie," an image for ahavah rabbah, in which all the emotions are joined as one with no division.

(וכנ"ל שדעת כולל חו"ג [חסד וגבורה] שהן תרין עטרין הנמשכים מכתפין דאריך) כי בהמדות שעיקר התהוותן הוא מהשכל שייך התחלקות [התחלקות] המדרגה

(and as above, that Daas includes Chesed and Gevurah, which are the "two crowns" drawn from the shoulders of Arich [Anpin]). For in the middos whose main coming-into-being is from the intellect, division of levels applies,

As noted, upper Daas includes Chesed and Gevurah, the "two crowns" drawn from the "shoulders" of Arich Anpin. By contrast, emotions that come from the intellect are divided by level.

כי אותו השכל שמוליד אהבה הוא אינו אותה ההשכלה המוליד יראה ואותו השכל שמוליד יראה אינו המוליד אהבה.

for the very intellect that gives birth to love is not the same intellection that gives birth to awe, and the intellect that gives birth to awe is not the one that gives birth to love.

The reason: the insight that produces love is different from the insight that produces awe, and each emotion has its own intellectual source.

ולכן המדות הנולדים מהן הן בחי' ענפין מתפרדין זמ"ז [זה מזה] משא"כ בלמעלה מהשכל אין שי"ך התחלקות³⁴ כלל והוא ע"ד ההפרש בין עולם העקודים לעולם הנקודים.³⁵

Therefore the middos born from them are the level of branches that separate from one another; whereas in what is above the intellect, division does not apply at all. And this is like the difference between the World of Akudim and the World of Nekudim:

So intellect-born emotions are like separate branches. Above the intellect there is no division. The Kabbalah's contrast between the World of Akudim ("bound") and the World of Nekudim ("points") illustrates this.

שבעקודי' כל הע"ס [העשר ספירות] עקודי' [עקודים] בכלי' [בכלים / בכלי] א' ואין בהם התחלקות כלל. משא"כ בנקודים הם י' נקודות מחולקיי.

that in Akudim all ten Sefiros are bound together in one vessel, and there is no division among them at all; whereas in Nekudim they are ten separate points.

In Akudim all ten Sefiros are bound together in one vessel; in Nekudim they are ten separate points, each in its own vessel.

והיינו משום כי נקודים הוא מבחינת חכמה (כי בענין טנת"א [טעמים נקודות תגין אותיות] הנקודות בחינת חכמה כו') ושם שי"ך התחלקות אבל העקודים הוא מבחי' כתר דשם הוא למעלה מההתחלקות.

And this is because Nekudim is from the level of Chochmah (for in the matter of ta'amim, nekudos, tagin and osiyos, the nekudos are the level of Chochmah, etc.), and there division applies; but Akudim is from the level of Keser, for there it is above division.

Nekudim derives from Chochmah: in the Kabbalistic set of cantillation marks, vowel points, crownlets and letters, the vowel points correspond to Chochmah. At the level of Chochmah, division is possible. Akudim derives from Keser, which is above division.

ולכן בחי' המדות שלמעלה מהשכל הנקי אה"ר [אהבה רבה] שיש בכל נפש זה נקי' בחי' רבקה שהוא קשר וחבור כמה בהמות דר"ל [דרוזה לומר] התכללות המדות יחדו ממש.

Therefore the level of the middos above the intellect, called ahavah rabbah, which is in every soul — this is called the level of Rivkah, which is a tie and binding of several beasts; that is to say, the actual inclusion of the middos together.

So ahavah rabbah, the undivided love above intellect that is in every soul, is called Rivkah, the team of several animals tied together: all the emotions truly joined as one.

וז"ש [וזהו שכתוב] ותרד העינה ³⁶ יש לפרשו כפשוטו לי [לשון] ירידה ממש כי החכ' [החכמה] נקי' מעיין. כי והחכמה מאין תמצא ³⁷ מבחי' כתר כמו המעיין הנובע מתחת לארץ. ונהר הוא בחי' בינה.

And this is [the meaning of] what is written, “And she went down to the spring”: it can be explained according to its plain meaning, an expression of actual descent. For Chochmah is called a spring, since “Chochmah is found from ayin (nothingness),” from the level of Keser, like a spring that wells up from beneath the earth. And a river is the level of Binah.

Now Genesis 24:16, “And she went down to the spring,” can be read literally as a descent: Chochmah is a spring because it wells up from ayin, from Keser, like water from under the ground; Binah is the broad river that flows from it.

והנה לגבי רבקה שהם המדות שבכתר א"כ ההמשכה בחו"ב [בחכמה ובינה] נקי' ותרד העינה (ועמ"ש בפי' ויוציאנו ³⁸ ה' אלקינו ממצרים. או"א [אבא ואימא] שהלכישו לזרועות דא"א כו') ותמלא כדה היינו כ"ד ספרין דאורייתא.

Now, in relation to Rivkah, which is the middos within Keser, the drawing-down into Chochmah and Binah is therefore called “and she went down to the spring” (and see what is written in the explanation of “And Havayah our G-d brought us out of Egypt”: Abba and Imma, which clothed the arms of Arich Anpin, etc.). “And she filled her pitcher (kadah)”: this is the twenty-four (kad) books of the Torah,

For Rivkah, the middos of Keser, going down into Chochmah and Binah is a descent: “she went down to the spring.” (The Alter Rebbe refers to his explanation of “And Havayah our G-d brought us out of Egypt,” where Abba and Imma clothe the “arms” of Arich Anpin, i.e., Chochmah and Binah enclothe the middos of Keser.) “She filled her pitcher (kadah)”: the letters kaf-dalet of kadah equal twenty-four, the twenty-four books of Scripture.

דאורי' [דאורייתא] מחכמה נפקת. ובעבודה הוא שע"י האה"ר [האהבה רבה] ממשיכים התגלות אור א"ס
 בחכמה ובתורה דמחכמה נפקת.

for the Torah comes forth from Chochmah. And in divine service, this is that through ahavah rabbah one draws down the revelation of the Infinite Light (Or Ein Sof) into Chochmah and into the Torah, which comes forth from Chochmah.

The Torah comes from Chochmah. In a person's service this means that through ahavah rabbah one draws the revelation of the Infinite Light into Chochmah and into the Torah that comes from it.

ותעל כי באמת ירידה זו עלייה היא כי פי' אורייתא מחכמה נפקת היינו שהתגלותה היא מחכמה

“And she came up”: for in truth this descent is an ascent. For the meaning of “the Torah comes forth from Chochmah” is that its revelation is from Chochmah,

“And she came up”: this descent is really an ascent. Saying that the Torah comes from Chochmah means only that it is revealed through Chochmah.

אבל שרשה למעלה מהחכמה כי תרי"ג מצות דאורייתא עם ז' מצות דרבנן הם תר"ך עמודי אור^{39, 40}
 שהם בחי' כתר וא"כ התורה נמשכת מחכ' [מחכמה] שבכתר

but its root is above Chochmah. For the 613 mitzvos of the Torah, together with the seven mitzvos of the Rabbis, are the 620 pillars of light, which are the level of Keser; and so the Torah is drawn from the Chochmah within Keser,

The Torah's root, however, is higher than Chochmah. The 613 Torah commandments and the 7 Rabbinic commandments make 620, the number of “pillars of light” of Keser (the Hebrew word keser also equals 620). So the Torah derives from the Chochmah within Keser.

שהיא גבוה מבחי' המדות שבכתר הנק' רבקה של שלש בקר כנ"ל (ועמ"ש במ"א בענין תנופת שתי
 הלחם ע"ג שני הכבשים):

which is higher than the level of the middos within Keser, called Rivkah of three cattle, as above. (And see what is written elsewhere on the matter of the waving of the two loaves upon the two lambs.)

This Chochmah within Keser is higher than the middos within Keser, “Rivkah.” By filling her pitcher with Torah, Rivkah rises above her own level. The parenthesis refers to a discussion elsewhere of waving the two loaves of Shavuos together with the two lambs.

SECTION 6 • ¶25-26

Many waters and the wealth of his house

25 וזהו מים רבים לא יוכלו לכבות את האהבה.⁴¹ והיינו להיות שאהבה זו היא בחי' אה"ר [אהבה רבה]

ששרשה למעלה מהשכל ע"כ לא ישקיטו המים

And this is [the meaning of] “Many waters cannot extinguish the love.” That is, since this love is the level of ahavah rabbah, whose root is above the intellect, therefore the many waters

Now the verse becomes clear: “Many waters cannot extinguish the love” refers to ahavah rabbah, rooted above intellect. Therefore the “many waters” cannot extinguish it.

רבים והנהרות שהן השגות אלקות הנמשכים מחו"ב [מחכמה ובינה] דאצי' את האהבה זו כיון ששרשה למעלה מכל ההשגות ונמשכה מבחי' דעת עליון הממשיך בחי' מדות שבכתר כו'.

and the rivers — which are comprehensions of G-dliness drawn from Chochmah and Binah of Atzilus — cannot quench this love, since its root is above all comprehensions and it is drawn from the level of upper Daas, which draws down the level of the middos within Keser, etc.

The “many waters” and “rivers” are the comprehensions of G-dliness that flow from Chochmah and Binah of Atzilus. They cannot still this love, since it is rooted beyond all comprehension and is drawn from upper Daas, which carries the middos of Keser.

אך אם יתן איש את כל הון ביתו בוז יבוזו לשון ביזה ושלל כי ביתו קאי על אותיות התורה דכתיב בחכמה יבנה בית.⁴²

But “If a man would give all the wealth of his house... boz yavuzu” — an expression of plunder and spoil. For “his house” refers to the letters of the Torah, as it is written, “With Chochmah a house is built.”

The second half of the verse: “If a man would give all the wealth of his house.” The Alter Rebbe reads “boz yavuzu” not as “they would scorn it” but as “bizah,” plunder and spoil, as when a person seizes great riches. Plainly the verse says that one who offered all his wealth for love would be scorned. “His house” is the letters of the Torah, built by Chochmah.

26 והון ביתו היינו מ"ש ובדעת חדרים ימלאון כל הון יקר ונעים⁴³ והיינו בחי דעת העליון שממשיך גילוי בחי הכתר⁴⁴ שלמעלה מהחכמה.

And "the wealth of his house" is what is written, "And by Daas the chambers are filled with all precious and pleasant wealth"; and this is the level of upper Daas, which draws down the revelation of the level of Keser, which is above Chochmah.

"The wealth of his house" is the "precious and pleasant wealth" that Daas brings into the chambers (Proverbs 24:4). This is upper Daas, which draws down the revelation of Keser, above Chochmah.

ודעת זה מחבר חו"ב [חכמה ובינה] שהם תושב"כ [תורה שבכתב] ותושבע"פ [תורה שבעל פה] וממשיך בהן אור הכתר דהיינו להיות גילוי רצון העליון איך לעשות הסוכה והציצית והתפילין.

And this Daas connects Chochmah and Binah, which are the Written Torah and the Oral Torah, and draws into them the light of Keser; that is, that there be a revelation of the Supreme Will: how to make the sukkah, the tzitzis and the tefillin.

Upper Daas joins Chochmah and Binah, which correspond to the Written Torah and the Oral Torah, and brings the light of Keser (G-d's will) into them. That is what the practical details of the mitzvos are: G-d's supreme will revealed, how exactly to make a sukkah, tzitzis and tefillin.

ולכן גם בחי אה"ר [אהבה רבה] הנ"ל תתרוה צמאונה ע"י גילוי זה כיון שהוא ג"כ המשכת דעת עליון ולא עוד

Therefore the above-mentioned level of ahavah rabbah too will have its thirst quenched through this revelation, since it too is a drawing-down of upper Daas. And not only that,

So the ahavah rabbah, the thirsting love above intellect, is quenched by this revelation in Torah, because the Torah too is drawn from upper Daas.

אלא שהוא המשכה מבחי גבוה יותר הרבה מהמשכת המדות שלמעלה מהשכל כי המדות הם בחי ז"ת [ז' תחתונות] דא"א.

but it is a drawing-down from a level much higher than the drawing-down of the middos that are above the intellect; for the middos are the level of the seven lower [Sefiros] of Arich Anpin,

Moreover, the Torah comes from a far higher level than the middos above intellect. Those middos are the seven lower Sefiros of Arich Anpin (the emotions within Keser).

אבל הון ביתו הוא התורה זהו בחי' ג"ר [ג' ראשונות] דא"א (ועמ"ש בדרוש השופר⁴⁵ שהכתר הוא ממוצע^{46,47} בין המאציל לנאצלים שיש בו מבחי' תחתונה שבמאציל והוא בחי' ג"ר [ג' ראשונות] דא"א.

whereas “the wealth of his house,” which is the Torah, is the level of the first three [Sefiros] of Arich Anpin. (And see what is written in the discourse on the shofar, that Keser is intermediary between the Emanator and the emanated, for it has [something] of the lowest level of the Emanator, and this is the level of the first three of Arich Anpin;

The Torah, “the wealth of his house,” comes from the first three, the intellect within Keser. The parenthesis refers to the discourse on the shofar: Keser is the intermediary between G-d the Emanator and the emanated Sefiros, and its first three Sefiros touch the lowest level of the Emanator.

ויש בו בחי' שרש הנאצלים והוא מז"ת [מז' תחתונות] ע"ש. וא"כ מובן איך שבחי' זו דהון ביתו הנמשך ע"י התורה שהוא מבחי' ג"ר [ג' ראשונות] גבוה לאין קץ גם מבחי' המדות שלמעלה מהשכל שהן בחי' ז"ת [ז' תחתונות] כו'.

and it has the level of the root of the emanated, and this is from the seven lower [Sefiros]; see there. Accordingly, it is understood how this level of “the wealth of his house,” which is drawn through the Torah, being from the level of the first three, is infinitely higher even than the level of the middos that are above the intellect, which are the level of the seven lower [Sefiros], etc.

The seven lower Sefiros of Keser are the root of the emanated Sefiros. So “the wealth of his house,” drawn through Torah from the first three of Keser, is infinitely higher than the emotions above intellect, which come from the seven lower.

וזהו ותרד העינה כו' ותעל שהיא עלייה גדולה למעלה מבחי' רבקה. וביאור הענין שדעת זה שנמשך ע"י התורה דהיינו מ"ש הון ביתו גבוה מבחי' דעת הממשיך אה"ר [אהבה רבה] יובן עם מ"ש בלק"ת [בלקוטי תורה (להאריז"ל)] פ' שמות⁴⁸ ע"פ

And this is “And she went down to the spring,” etc., “and she came up”: which is a great ascent, above the level of Rivkah. And the explanation of the matter — that this Daas, which is drawn through the Torah, namely what is written, “the wealth of his house,” is higher than the level of the Daas that draws down ahavah rabbah — will be understood with what is written in the Arizal's Likkutei Torah, Parshas Shemos, on the verse

This explains “she went down... and came up”: Rivkah's descent into Torah raises her above her own level. That the Daas carried by Torah is higher than the Daas that carries ahavah rabbah is explained in the Arizal's Likkutei Torah on Shemos, on “that he turned aside to see.”

כי סר לראות⁴⁹ שבחי דעת הכולל תרין עטרין⁵⁰ עם היותן מדות דכתר הוא למטה מבחינת דעת הכולל תרין אחסנתוי דא"א [דאבא ואימא] כו' שממשיך ב"פ [ב' פעמים] קדמאין שהם בחי' חב"ד [הכמה בינה ודעת] שבחוי"ג [שבחסד וגבורה] דא"א.

"[And Havayah saw] that he turned aside to see": that the level of the Daas that includes the "two crowns," though they are the middos of Keser, is below the level of the Daas that includes the "two inheritances" of Abba and Imma, etc., which draws down the first two joints, which are the level of Chochmah, Binah and Daas within the Chesed and Gevurah of Arich Anpin.

As the maamar reports it, the Arizal there distinguishes two kinds of Daas: one containing the "two crowns" (Chesed and Gevurah of Keser, the emotions above intellect), and a higher one containing the "two inheritances" of Abba and Imma, which draws down the first two "joints" of the arms of Arich Anpin, that is, the intellect (Chochmah, Binah and Daas) within its Chesed and Gevurah.

ועמ"ש בפי' ראה אנכי נותן⁵¹ בענין יום יום יעמס לנו⁵² כו' ע"ש. ויובן שייכות ש"י עולמות⁵³ לדעת זה. וגם דעת זה שרשו עוד גבוה יותר דהיינו מתקון ואמת כו'. וז"ש [וזהו שכתוב] תורת אמת⁵⁴ (כו').

And see what is written in Parshas Re'eh, [on] "See, I set before you," on the matter of "Day by day He loads us," etc.; see there. And the connection of the 310 worlds to this Daas will be understood. And also, the root of this Daas is higher still, namely from the tikkun "and truth," etc. And this is [the meaning of] what is written, "The Torah of truth," etc.)

Further references: a discourse on "See, I set before you" (Parshas Re'eh) about "Day by day He loads us." The 310 worlds that the Sages promise the righteous connect to this Daas. Its root is higher still, in the tikkun (one of the thirteen "attributes" of the supernal beard) called "and truth," hence the Torah is called "the Torah of truth."

ובכ"ז [ובכל זה] יובן מארז"ל [מאמר רבותינו זכרונם לברכה] דחייב אדם לברך מאה ברכות⁵⁵ בכל יום. דצ"ל מספר מאה דוקא. אלא

With all this will be understood the saying of our Sages, of blessed memory, that a person is obliged to recite one hundred blessings every day. [Why] must it be the number one hundred specifically? But

The maamar now applies this to the Sages' rule that one must recite a hundred blessings every day. Why exactly one hundred?

כי פי א"ת [אל תקרי] מה אלא מאה^{56,57} כי מה היינו בחיי מל⁵⁸ ממכ"ע [ממלא כל עלמין] וצריך להמשיך מבחי סוכ"ע בממכ"ע [בממלא כל עלמין].⁵⁹

the explanation: "Do not read mah (what) but me'ah (one hundred)." For mah is the level of Malchus, the light that fills all worlds (memalei kol almin); and one must draw down from the level of the light that encompasses all worlds (sovev kol almin) into memalei kol almin.

The Sages derive it from "What (mah) does G-d ask of you," reading mah as me'ah, "a hundred." Mah stands for Malchus, the divine light that fills and enlivens the worlds according to their measure. The purpose of the blessings is to draw the encompassing light (sovev) into that indwelling light.

והוא ע"י הכתר שהוא הממוצע בין המאציל לנאצלים. ולכן צ"ל מאה ברכות דוקא להמשיך מע"ס [מעשר ספירות] דא"א הכלולים מעשר

And this is through Keser, which is the intermediary between the Emanator and the emanated. Therefore there must be one hundred blessings specifically, to draw down from the ten Sefiros of Arich Anpin, [each] comprising ten,

That drawing-down happens through Keser, the intermediary between G-d and the Sefiros. Hence a hundred: the ten Sefiros of Arich Anpin, each containing ten.

דהיינו שיהי [שיהיה] ההמשכה גם מג"ר [מגי ראשונות] דא"א כנ"ל. וזהו ונאם הגבר הוקם ע"ל⁶⁰ שהעיין מורה על ז"ת [זי תחתונות]. והלמ"ד על ג"ר [גי ראשונות].

that is, so that the drawing-down be also from the first three [Sefiros] of Arich Anpin, as above. And this is [the meaning of] "The saying of the man raised on high (al)," for the ayin indicates the seven lower [Sefiros], and the lamed the first three.

Counting all ten, not just seven, means the drawing-down reaches even the first three Sefiros of Arich Anpin, the source of the Torah described above. David's phrase "the man raised on high (al)" hints at this: ayin (70) represents the seven lower Sefiros (each of ten), lamed (30) the first three (each of ten), together 100.

(ובזה יובן משארז"ל [מה שאמרו רבותינו זכרונם לברכה] שהיו מתים ק' אנשים בכל יום עד שתקן דוד מאה ברכות.⁶¹ וצ"ל השייכות שע"י המאה ברכות פסקו מלמות).

(And with this will be understood what our Sages, of blessed memory, said: that one hundred people used to die every day until David instituted one hundred blessings. And the connection must be explained: how, through the hundred blessings, they stopped dying.)

A related saying: a hundred people died each day until King David instituted the hundred blessings. The parenthesis asks how the blessings stopped the deaths.

אך הענין כי הנה ע"י גילוי זה דסוכ"ע יהיה תח"ה [תחיית המתים] לע"ל [לעתיד לבוא]. והנה ענין תחיית המתים שיהיה גוף עם קרביים ומעיים וחי וקים לעולם בלי אכילה ושתייה.

But the matter is that through this revelation of sovev kol almin, the Resurrection of the Dead will take place in the Time to Come. Now the idea of the Resurrection of the Dead is that there will be a body with innards and intestines, living and enduring forever without eating and drinking.

The answer: the revelation of sovev kol almin is what will bring about the Resurrection of the Dead. The resurrected body will be a real body, with all its organs, yet will live forever without food or drink.

ואיך הוא זה אלא ע"י שיהי [שיהיה] גילוי סוכ"ע דקמיה שוה רוחניות וגשמיות ממש. ע"כ גם הגוף יוכל לחיות מזה.

And how can this be, except through there being a revelation of sovev kol almin, before which spirituality and physicality are truly equal? Therefore the body too will be able to live from this.

That is possible only through the revelation of sovev, before which spiritual and physical are equal, so a physical body can draw life from it directly. The hundred blessings draw sovev down, and so they counter death.

SECTION 7 • 127

The body living from the Infinite Light

27 ועד"מ באדם יש ב' מיני המשכות. הא' בבחי' פנימיות השכל במוח. ומדות בלב. כח המעשה ביד כו'.

And by way of analogy: in man there are two kinds of drawing-down. The first is in the manner of inwardness: the intellect in the brain, and the middos in the heart, the power of action in the hand, etc.

An analogy from the human being: there are two ways the soul reaches the body. The first is inward: each faculty in its own organ, intellect in the brain, emotion in the heart, the power of action in the hand.

והב' בחי' מקיף והוא הרצון והמחשבה שישנו אפילו ברגל שמיד כשרוצה להניע רגלו תתנענע רגלו כו'.

And the second is the level of the encompassing (makif): this is the will and the thought, which are present even in the foot; for as soon as he wants to move his foot, his foot moves, etc.

The second is "encompassing" (makif): will and thought reach even the foot, which has no faculty of its own for thought; the moment a person wants to move his foot, it moves.

ואע"פ [ואף על פי] שהרגל אינו כלי לגילוי המחשבה מ"מ פועל בו המחשבה וזהו בחי' מקיף. ועד"ז גם הגוף הגשמי יקבל חיות וקיום למזון מאור א"ס ב"ה ממש וד"ל [ודי למבין]:

And although the foot is not a vessel for the revelation of thought, nevertheless the thought acts upon it; and this is the level of the encompassing. And in the same way, the physical body too will receive life-force and existence, as nourishment, from the Infinite Light (Or Ein Sof), blessed be He, itself. And this is sufficient for the understanding.

The foot is not a vessel for thought, yet thought acts on it: a power that works on what cannot contain it. In the same way, at the Resurrection the physical body will receive life directly from the Infinite Light, as its nourishment, without food. The Alter Rebbe ends with "enough for the understanding."

IN ONE'S AVODAH

Emotions born of understanding need Daas, deep and sustained connection, to be refined; otherwise even fiery love in prayer can carry a trace of the animal soul, which shows itself afterward as anger. A devotion that seems wholly good may still hold a trace of one's nature: Rabbi Chanina feared this of his self-sacrifice, until his generosity showed that no natural temperament was in it. The ahavah rabbah hidden in every soul, which no intellectual comprehension can quench, finds its fulfilment in Torah and the exact details of the mitzvos, G-d's will revealed, and in reciting a hundred blessings every day.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How can both models of the Sefiros, the vertical chain and the three lines, be true at once, and what does each describe in a person's emotional life?
2. Why does the Alter Rebbe infer that anger after fervent prayer shows a foreign admixture in the prayer itself, and how does the parenthetical note reconcile this with Tanya, chapter 28?
3. What did Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon fear about his self-sacrifice, and why did giving away the Purim money prove his devotion was pure?
4. Why is ahavah rabbah called "Rivkah," and why is her going down to the spring really an ascent?
5. How do the hundred daily blessings relate to the Resurrection of the Dead, according to the maamar?

FOR CHILDREN • AGES 9-13

For the children at the table

The love that many waters cannot put out

THE BIG IDEA

Deep in every soul is a love for G-d that is above understanding; no amount of thinking can satisfy it, only the Torah and its mitzvos, which come from even higher.

The maamar explains the verse “Many waters cannot extinguish the love,” and its second half, “If a man would give all the wealth of his house.” Here “if” means “when”: in the Time to Come it will surely happen. There are two kinds of love for G-d. The first comes from understanding: we think about G-d’s greatness, and love grows in our heart. This love needs Daas, which means a deep connection, so that our thinking truly reaches the heart and makes the feeling pure. Without it, even warm prayer can be followed by anger, a sign that something of ourselves was mixed in. The second love is above understanding. It is called ahavah rabbah, “great love,” and it is in every soul. Rivkah’s name hints at it, from a word for tying animals together, because in this love all our feelings are joined as one. The “many waters,” all our understanding, cannot put this love out, and they cannot satisfy it either. What satisfies it is “the wealth of his house”: the Torah and the exact details of the mitzvos, such as how to make a sukkah, tzitzis and tefillin, which show G-d’s own will.

THE MASHAL

A person’s foot does not think, yet as soon as the person wants to move it, it moves. The will is not inside the foot the way a thought is inside the mind, but it moves the foot from above. In the same way, in the Time to Come, G-d’s light will give life to the body directly, from above.

QUESTIONS FOR THE SHABBOS TABLE

1. What is the difference between a love for G-d that comes from understanding and a love that is above understanding?
2. Why might Rivkah’s name, which speaks of tying things together, be a sign of the great love hidden in every soul?
3. This week, how can you do one mitzvah carefully, with all its details, knowing that it shows what G-d wants?

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SOURCES AND REFERENCES

Notes

PARAGRAPH 1

1 ביאור על הנ"ל

The note records two other transcripts (hanachos) of this same explanation, printed in the volume of discourses from the year 5569 (1808-09).

KEHOT'S NOTE

הנחה אחרת בסה"מ תקס"ט ע"י יג. עוד הנחה שם ע"י לג. ראה לעיל בציונים לכ"ק אדמו"ר זי"ע. ביאור זה נזכר בסה"מ תרס"ט ע"י קסה בענין ד"ע הממשיך מבחי' הכתר.

PARAGRAPH 2

2 The bride of the Song (in the previous maamar, the Jewish

people in their love for G-d) says: "Many waters cannot extinguish the love, nor can rivers drown it; if a man would give all the wealth of his house for love, boz yavuzu lo." Plainly, love cannot be bought: one who offered all his wealth for it would be utterly scorned. This maamar reads "im" as "when" and, further on, boz as bizah, "plunder": the wealth of the house will be given and taken like spoil. (context: Steinsaltz Tanakh)

Song of Songs 8:7: שיר השירים ח:ז

מים רבים לא יוכלו לכבות את־האהבה ונהרות לא ישטפוהָ אִם־יִתֵּן אִישׁ אֶת־כָּל־הוֹנוֹ בִּיתוֹ בְּאֶהְבָּה בּוֹז יָבוּזוּ לוֹ:

Many waters cannot quench love, Neither can the floods drown it; If a man would give all the substance of his house for love, He would utterly be contemned.

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3 אם כסף תלוה

In the laws G-d gives Israel at Sinai: "When (im) you lend money to My people, to the poor among you, you shall not be to him as a creditor." Lending to the poor is a duty, so here "im" means "when," not "if."

Exodus 22:24: שמות כ"ב:כד

אִם־כֶּסֶף תִּלְוֶה אֶת־עַמִּי אֶת־הָעֲנִי עִמָּךְ לֹא־תִהְיֶה לוֹ כְּנֹשֶׁה לֹא־תִשְׁמָנוּ עָלָיו נֶשֶׁךְ:

If thou lend money to any of My people, even to the poor with thee, thou shalt not be to him as a creditor; neither shall ye lay upon him interest.

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KEHOT'S NOTE

שמות כב, כד.

4 ובדעת חדרים ימלאון

Shlomo's proverb: "And by knowledge (daas) the chambers are filled with all precious and pleasant wealth." Its "wealth" (hon) is linked to "the wealth (hon) of his house" in the Song of Songs.

Proverbs 24:4: משלי כ"ד:ד

ובדעת חדרים ימלאון קר ונעים:

And by knowledge are the chambers filled With all precious and pleasant riches.

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KEHOT'S NOTE

ע"פ משלי כד, ד.

5 ביאור על הנ"ל

Kehot's note points to where this is explained further: Maamarei Admur HaZaken 5569.

KEHOT'S NOTE

הנחה אחרת בסה"מ תקס"ט ע"י יג. עוד הנחה שם ע"י לג. ראה לעיל בציונים לכ"ק אדמו"ר זי"ע. ביאור זה נזכר בסה"מ תרס"ט ע"י קסה בענין ד"ע הממשיך מבחי' הכתר.

6 ואם יהי הויכל

The heads of the clan of Gilead say to Moshe about the daughters of Tzelofchad: "And when (ve'im) the Jubilee shall be for the children of Israel," their inheritance will pass to the tribe they marry into for good. The Jubilee is certain to come, so here too "im" means "when." (context: Steinsaltz Tanakh)

Numbers 36:4: במדבר ל"ו:ד

וְאִם־יִהְיֶה הַיֵּיכָל לְבָנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְנוֹסְפָה נִחְלָתָן עַל נִחְלַת הַמָּטָה אֲשֶׁר תִּהְיֶינָה לָהֶם וּמִנְחַלַּת מָטָה אֲבֹתֵינוּ יֵרָע נִחְלָתָן:

And when the jubilee of the children of Israel shall be, then will their inheritance be added unto the inheritance of the tribe whereunto they shall belong; so will their inheritance be taken away from the inheritance of the tribe of our fathers.'

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KEHOT'S NOTE

ראה במדבר לו, ד.

PARAGRAPH 3

7 בחכמה יבנה בית

Shlomo's proverb: "With wisdom a house is built, and with understanding it is established." The maamar reads its three terms as Chochmah, Binah and Daas, the three stages of the "house."

Proverbs 24:3: משלי כ"ד:ג

בְּחָכְמָה יִבְנֶה בַּיִת וּבִתְבוּנָה יִתְכַּוֵּן:

Through wisdom is a house builded; And by understanding it is established;

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KEHOT'S NOTE

משלי כד, ג.

8 ובדעת חדרים ימלאון

"And by knowledge the chambers are filled." The third

stage, Daas, is the subject of the maamar.

משלי כ"ד:4 Proverbs

ובדעת חדרים ימלאו פליהון יקר ונעים:

And by knowledge are the chambers filled With all precious and pleasant riches.

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9 סדר השתלשלות ד"ס

The note points to a parallel treatment of the discussion that follows: the order of descent of the ten Sefiros.

KEHOT'S NOTE

בהבא לקמן ראה ביאורה"ז להצ"צ ע"י ערה ואילך. לקו"ת ואתחנן ה, א ואילך. סה"מ תקס"ה ע"י קפד ואילך. ובד"ה כי תבאו אל הארץ תרס"ו ע"י רכד, ובד"ה אם בחקתי תלכו תרס"ז (בהמשך תרס"ו) ע"י תלו.

PARAGRAPH 4

10 מבשרי אחזה

Job, in his suffering, says: "From my flesh I shall behold G-d." In Chassidus it means that from the make-up of a human being one can perceive how things are above.

איוב י"ט:26 Job 19:

ואחר עורי נקפוצאת ומבשרי אחזה אלוה:

And when after my skin this is destroyed, Then without my flesh shall I see G-d;

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KEHOT'S NOTE

איוב יט, כו.

11 חכמה כח מ"ה

Tanya, ch. 3, gives the same definition: the intellect is called Chochmah, "ko'ach mah", and Binah develops it, and together they are the "father" and "mother" that give birth to love and awe of G-d.

Tanya, Likkutei Amarim 3:5-6 אמרים; ליקוטי ראשון; חלק ראשון; ג'ה"ר

וביאור הענין, כי הנה השכל שבנפש המשפלת, שהוא המשפיל כל דבר - נקרא בשם "חכמה", "כ"ח מ"ה". וכשמוציא כחו אל הפועל, שמתבונן בשכלו להבין דבר לאשורו ולעמקו, מתוך איזה דבר חכמה המושכל בשכלו - נקרא "בינה".

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KEHOT'S NOTE

ת"ז בהקדמה. ראה תניא פ"ג ופ"ה ובליקוט פירושים שם.

PARAGRAPH 5

12 והחכמה מאין תמצא

Job asks: "But wisdom, where (me'ayin) shall it be found, and where is the place of understanding?" Chassidus reads me'ayin as "from ayin (nothingness)": Chochmah is the first emergence of revelation from what is beyond comprehension.

איוב כ"ח:12 Job 28:

והחכמה מאין תמצא ואיזה מקום בינה:

But wisdom, where shall it be found? And where is the place of understanding?

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KEHOT'S NOTE

איוב כח, יב.

PARAGRAPH 6

13 אם הבנים

The psalmist praises G-d, who "settles the barren woman in her home as a joyful mother of children (em habanim)." In Kabbalah the phrase names Binah, from which the middos, the "children," are born.

Psalms 113:9 תהילים קי"ג:9

מושיכי עקרת הבית אסהבנים שמחה הללויה:

Who maketh the barren woman to dwell in her house As a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah.

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PARAGRAPH 9

14 ב' בחי' דעת

On 87c Likkutei Torah, Matos describes two ways the middos are blended and repaired: by drawing the intellect into them, and by a light from above, Atika "looking face to face" into Z'eir Anpin, since Keser is the intermediary that draws the Emanator's light into the emanated.

KEHOT'S NOTE

ראה לקו"ת פי' מטות פז, ג. שמע"צ פג, א. שה"ש ל, ג. אוה"ת שופטים ע' תתמט. ד"ה אם בחקתי תלכו רס"ז (בהמשך תרס"ו). בלקו"ת בלק סט, ג מציין לענין הדעת כמו שמבאר כאן. וראה שם ש"ק הצ"צ מציין לעוד מקומות בדא"ח, שם עא, ג. ואתחנן ו, א. ר"ה נו, ד.

15 הנה נודע שיש ב' בחי' במדות

The note records that the Tzemach Tzedek quotes this statement about the two kinds of middos.

KEHOT'S NOTE

מובא בביאורה"ז להצ"צ כרך א ע' רעח.

16 וכמ"ש בר"מ

In the Idra Zuta Rabbi Shimon says that Abba and Imma come out of the hidden brain, while "Z'eir Anpin hangs upon and is attached to Atika Kadisha." The maamar uses it to show that the middos have a root in Keser, above the intellect.

Zohar III, 292a, זח"ג רצב,

KEHOT'S NOTE

זח"ג רצב, א. ראה לקמן עג א. לקו"ת ס"פ שמיני יט, ב. חקת נח, ב. שה"ש מו, ד. הנחת הר"פ ע"י לג. ביאורה"ז לאדה"א נד, ב. ובכ"מ.

PARAGRAPH 12

17 וצריך להבין בחי' דעת מהו משמש

Likkutei Torah, Matos refers back to this passage: it says that through Chochmah and Binah within the middos, the emotions of the animal soul are refined, "as explained in

the explanation on 'Many waters cannot extinguish the love' regarding what function Daas serves."

KEHOT'S NOTE

בלקו"ת פ' מטות פו, ד, פז, ד מציינ לכאן.

PARAGRAPH 13

18 אברהם שיצא ממנו ישמעאל

Kehot's marei makom for these words (its note is below).

KEHOT'S NOTE

ספרי דברים לב, ט.

19 אברהם שיצא ממנו ישמעאל

The Sifrei notes that Avraham produced Yishmael, and Yitzchak produced Eisav, before Yaakov, whose offspring were all complete. The Alter Rebbe uses it to show that a holy attribute (Avraham's Chesed) can give rise to an unholy offshoot.

Sifrei Devarim 312:1-2"ב"א-ב"ב

... צאו מתוך שלי, אי אפשר שתהיו בתוכה, תנו לי חלקי שאהא מכיר. כך כשבא אברהם אבינו לעולם יצאה ממנו פסולת, ישמעאל וכל בני קטורה. בא יצחק לעולם יצאה ממנו פסולת, עשו וכל אלופי אדם. חזרו להיות רעים יותר מן הראשונים. וכשבא יעקב לא יצאה ממנו פסולת, אלא נולדו כל בניו כשרים, כענין שנאמר (בראשית כה כז): "ויעקב איש תם יושב אהלים". מהיכן המקום מכיר את חלקו? מיעקב, שנאמר: כי חלק ה' עמו יעקב חבל ...

(Devarim 32:9) "For the portion of the L-rd is His people": An analogy: A king had a field and gave it to tenant-farmers, who began to steal from it — upon which he gave it to their sons — who began to be worse than the first. When a son was born to him, he said to them: Get out of what is mine. You cannot remain there. Give me my portion so that I can recognize it. Similarly, when our father Abraham came to the world, there issued from ...

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20 כרשפי אש

The bride says to her beloved that love is strong as death: "its flashes are flashes of fire, a flame of G-d." The verse just before "Many waters" names the fiery love of prayer.

Song of Songs 8:6"ח:שירים

שימיני כחותם עלי לבך כחותם על זרועך כיעצה כמות אהבה קשה כשאל קנאה רשפיה רשפי אש שלהבתיה:

Set me as a seal upon thy heart, As a seal upon thine arm;
For love is strong as death, Jealousy is cruel as the grave;
The flashes thereof are flashes of fire, A very flame of the L-RD.

Miqra according to the Masorah (CC-BY-SA) • JPS 1917 (Public Domain)

PARAGRAPH 14

21 מעשה דר' יוסי בן קיסמא

The Talmud tells of Rabbi Chanina ben Teradyon's visit to Rabbi Yose ben Kisma, their exchange about his public

teaching of Torah under Roman decree, and his question about the World to Come.

עבודה זרה י"ח א:6"א:Avodah Zarah 18a:6

תנו רבנן: כשחלה רבי יוסי בן קיסמא, הלך רבי חנינא בן תרדיון לבקרו. אמר לו: חנינא אחי, (אחי), אי אתה יודע שאומה זו מן השמים המליכוה? שהחריבה את ביתו ושרפה את היכלו, והרגה את חסידיו ואבדה את טוביו, ועדיין היא קיימת. ואני שמעתי עליה שאתה יושב ועוסק בתורה [ומקהיל קהלות ברבים], וספר מונח לך בחיקך!

William Davidson, Vocalized Aramaic (CC-BY-NC)

KEHOT'S NOTE

ע"ז יח, א. ראה לקו"ת ראה כב, ב. סה"ש תש"נ ע' 705. סה"ש תנש"א ע' 159 הערה 47. סה"מ מלוקט כרך ד ע' קעא.

PARAGRAPH 15

22 מה אני לחיי עוה"ב

Rabbi Chanina asks, "What am I for the life of the World to Come?", and Rabbi Yose asks whether any deed has come to his hand.

עבודה זרה י"ח א:7"א:Avodah Zarah 18a:7

אמר לו: מן השמים ירחמו. אמר לו: אני אומר לך דברים של טעם, ואתה אומר לי "מן השמים ירחמו"? תמה אני אם לא ישרפו אותך ואת ספר תורה באש! אמר לו: רבי, מה אני לחיי העולם הבא?

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PARAGRAPH 19

23 רק רע כל היום

Before the Flood, G-d saw that "every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the day." Borrowed to describe one whose mind is set only on his desires.

בראשית ו:5"ה:Genesis 6:5

וירא ה' כי רבה רעת האדם בארץ וכל יצר מחשבת לבו רק רע כל-היום:

And the L-RD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

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PARAGRAPH 20

24 מבורא בח"פ להרמב"ם ע"ש פ"ח

In chapter 8 of his Eight Chapters (the introduction to Avos), Maimonides discusses how people are born with temperaments that incline them toward certain traits.

Eight Chapters 8:10"ח:מונה פרקים

... ואמר, מברר עניין זה: "הן האדם היה כאחד ממנו לדעת טוב ורע" וגו' (בראשית ג, כב), וכבר באר התרגום שעור הכתוב: "ממנו לדעת טוב ורע". כלומר: הן מין זה של אדם היה יחיד בעולם, ואין מין שני דומה לו בעניין הזה, שיהא הוא מעצמו, בדעתו ובמחשבתו, יודע הטוב והרע, ועושה כל מה שהוא חפץ, ואין מי שיעכב בידו. וכיון שכן הוא: "פן ישלח ידו ולקח גם מעץ החיים ואכל וחי לעולם" (שם) ואחר

שהתחייב זה במציאות האדם, רצוני לומר: שיעשה בבחירתו מעשי הטוב והרע לכשיחפוז; התחייב לימודו דרכי הטוב, ...

This occasioned the sages to say that all miracles which deviate from the natural course of events, whether they have already occurred, or, according to promise, are to take place in the future, were fore-ordained by the Divine Will during the six days of creation, nature being then so constituted that those miracles which were to happen really did afterwards take place. Then, when such an occurrence happened at its proper time, it may have been regarded as an absolute innovation, whereas in reality it was not., V, 6, which ...

Wikisource (Public Domain) • The Eight Chapters of Maimonides on Ethics, by Joseph I Gorfinkle (Public Domain)

PARAGRAPH 21

25 לה' לבדו

The Torah's law: "Whoever sacrifices to the gods shall be destroyed, except to Havayah alone." Echoed to describe devotion that is entirely for G-d, with no other motive mixed in.

Exodus 22:19 שמות כ"ב:י"ט

זבח לאֱלֹהִים יַחְרֵם בְּלֹתִי לַה' לְבָדּוּ:

He that sacrificeth unto the gods, save unto the L-RD only, shall be utterly destroyed.

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PARAGRAPH 22

26 אם בא מעשה לידך

Rabbi Yose asks, "Has any deed come to your hand?", and Rabbi Chanina tells of the Purim money he gave to the poor.

עבודה זרה י"ח א:ח-ט"ז-9-8:18a Avodah Zarah

אמר לו: כלום מעשה בא לידך? אמר לו: מעות של פורים נתחלפו לי במעות של צדקה וחקלקתים לעניים. אמר לו: אם כן, מחלקה יהי חלקי ומגורלך יהי גורלי. אמרו: לא היו ימים מועטים עד שנפטר רבי יוסי בן קיסמא, והלכו כל גדולי רומי לקברו והספידוהו הספד גדול, ובחזרתו מצאוהו לרבי חנינא בן תרדיון שהיה יושב ועוסק בתורה ומקהיל קהלות ברבים וספר תורה מונח לו בחיקו.

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PARAGRAPH 23

27 מחלקך יהא חלקי

Rabbi Yose's answer to Rabbi Chanina after hearing about the Purim money: "If so, may my portion be of your portion, and my lot of your lot."

עבודה זרה י"ח א:ח-ט"ז-9-8:18a Avodah Zarah

אמר לו: כלום מעשה בא לידך? אמר לו: מעות של פורים נתחלפו לי במעות של צדקה וחקלקתים לעניים. אמר לו: אם כן, מחלקה יהי חלקי ומגורלך יהי גורלי. אמרו: לא היו ימים מועטים עד שנפטר רבי יוסי בן קיסמא, והלכו כל גדולי רומי לקברו והספידוהו הספד גדול, ובחזרתו מצאוהו לרבי חנינא בן תרדיון שהיה יושב ועוסק בתורה ומקהיל קהלות ברבים וספר תורה מונח לו בחיקו.

מצאוהו לרבי חנינא בן תרדיון שהיה יושב ועוסק בתורה ומקהיל קהלות ברבים וספר תורה מונח לו בחיקו.

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28 יש ב' מיני מדות

Likkutei Torah, Emor quotes this distinction: the Daas that spreads in the middos binds intellect to emotion and is their inner life, while the supernal middos (the "shin" of keves) are above the intellect.

KEHOT'S NOTE

מובא בלקו"ת אמור לט, ב.

PARAGRAPH 24

29 ולמעלה הוא בחי' מדות שבכתר חו"ג דא"א

A parallel discussion of the middos within Keser, the Chesed and Gevurah of Arich Anpin.

KEHOT'S NOTE

ראה אוה"ת פ' ראה ע' תשצו. מובא גם בלקו"ת אמור לז, ב.

30 וכמ"ש בתניא (ס"פ מ"ו)

The end of Tanya ch. 46 applies Asaf's words, "I was as beasts with You, yet I am always with You," to every Jew: even one whose coarse body keeps him from feeling the awe and ahavah rabbah of the tzaddikim is always united with G-d. It adds that the plural "beheemos" hints that before G-d even upper Daas, which includes Chesed and Gevurah, is like "beasts" beside the Infinite Light.

תניא, חלק ראשון; ליקוטי אמרי 46:10 Tanya, Likkutei Amarim

וככה הוא בכל נפש מישראל בשעת עסק התורה והמצוות. ולכן חייבו רבבותינו זכרונם לברכה לקום ולעמוד מפני כל עוסק במצוה, אף אם הוא בור ועם הארץ, והיינו, מפני ה' השוכן ומתלבש בנפשו בשעה זו, רק שאין נפשו מרגשת, מפני מסת החומר הגופני, שלא נודע, ומחשיך עיני הנפש מראות מראות אלקים כמו האבות וכיוצא בזה, שראו עולםם בחייהם.

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31 בהמות הייתי עמר

Asaf the psalmist says to G-d: "I was brutish and did not know; I was as beasts (beheemos) with You," and goes on, "yet I am always with You." Plainly he confesses that he understood like an animal; the maamar, following Tanya, draws on the plural beheemos.

Psalms 73:22 תהילים ע"ג:כ"ב

ואנייכער ולא אדע בהמות הייתי עמר:

But I was brutish, and ignorant; I was as a beast before Thee.

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32 דעת העליון הכולל חו"ג

A later discourse that discusses the upper Daas that includes Chesed and Gevurah.

KEHOT'S NOTE

ראה סה"מ תרנ"ז ע' ריט. בענין ב' בחי' דעת — ראה בלקו"ת ביאורים להרה"ק ר' הלל לשער היחוד מכ"ק אדה"א הוצאת תשנ"ה קנ, א שמצין

לכאן.

33

רבקה . . של שלש

The Mishnah on the posts around a well on Shabbos allows a gap between them as wide as two rivkos, teams of three cattle each (Rabbi Meir; Rabbi Yehudah says four, tied, not loose). The maamar reads the name Rivkah as such a team: the middos joined as one.

עירובין י"ז ב"ב Eruvin 17b

KEHOT'S NOTE

עירובין יז, ב.

34

בלמעלה מהשכל אין שייך התחלקות

The Megillas Esther discourse applies this principle: in the self-sacrifice of Purim, a simple will above intellect, all Jews were equal, "as one man," because above Chochmah there is no division; it refers back to "Many waters" in Toldos.

KEHOT'S NOTE

לקמן צח, א מציין לכאן.

35

ההפרש בין עולם העקודים לעולם הנקודים

A parallel discussion of the difference between the World of Akudim and the World of Nekudim.

KEHOT'S NOTE

ראה אוה"ת פי ויקהל ע"י ביצה. ב"י צט.

36

ותרד העינה

The Torah describes Rivkah at the well when Avraham's servant came to find a wife for Yitzchak: "she went down to the spring, and filled her pitcher, and came up." Each phrase is read as a stage in drawing the love above intellect into Torah.

בראשית כ"ד:ט"ז Genesis 24:16

והנער טבת מראה מאד בתולה ואיש לא ידעה ותרד העינה ותמלא כדה ותעל:

And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her; and she went down to the fountain, and filled her pitcher, and came up.

Miqra according to the Masorah (CC-BY-SA) • JPS 1917 (Public Domain)

37

והחכמה מאין תמצא

Read as "Chochmah comes from ayin": Chochmah springs from Keser, like water from under the ground.

Job 28:12 איוב כ"ח:י"ב

והחכמה מאין תמצא ואי זה מקום בינה:

But wisdom, where shall it be found? And where is the place of understanding?

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38

ועמ"ש בפ"י ויוציאנו ה' אלקינו

The note identifies the explanation of "And Havayah our G-d brought us out of Egypt" that the text refers to: it is in the discourses of the Siddur (on the Haggadah).

KEHOT'S NOTE

סידור רצג, ג ואילך.

39

תרי"ך עמודי אור

Iggeres HaKodesh 29 says that the Supreme Will is called Keser Elyon, in which are the 620 pillars of light, and that this will is clothed in the 613 commandments of the Torah and the 7 of the Rabbis; the commandments are like pillars reaching from the Supreme Will down to this earth.

KEHOT'S NOTE

פרדס שער ח' פ"ג. ראה אגה"ק סכ"ט. וראה הערת כ"ק אדמו"ר זי"ע בסה"מ תשי"ח ע' 165.

40

תרי"ך עמודי אור

The Kehot note gives Pardes Rimmonim, Gate 8, ch. 3, for the 620 "pillars of light" of Keser. The maamar counts them as the 613 commandments of the Torah and the 7 of the Rabbis, and 620 is the numerical value of keser.

פרדס רמונים ח' ה"ו-ר"ה 8:5-6 Pardes Rimmonim

... ונ"ל כי נכנסו בזה בראותם כי גדולה קודמת לגבורה והוא החסד והלובן ואחר הגדולה נאצלה הגבורה והיא דין ואודם ואחר כך נאצל תפארת העומד בין שניהם להכריע בין האודם והלובן והוא גוון אודם ולובן מעורב. ר"ל כי כענין ג' אלה כן דרך שלשה הראשונות כי ג' הראשונות הם שרשים וג' אבות ענפים להם ומן הענפים נדון להשרשים. ולכן אמרו שהכתר הראשון לאצילות הוא הזקן והלבן ולכן נקרא עתיק יומין שהוא כח הלובן והוא כנגד הגדולה והנמשך אחריו שהוא החכמה הוא כנגד הגבורה והיא אדומה. כי כמו שאחר הלובן חסד ...

Pardes Rimmonim (Public Domain)

PARAGRAPH 25

41

מים רבים לא יוכלו לכבות את האהבה

"Many waters cannot extinguish the love, nor can rivers drown it." The waters are read as comprehension flowing from Chochmah and Binah, which cannot quench love rooted above them.

Song of Songs 8:7 שיר השירים ח' ז"ו

מים רבים לא יוכלו לכבות את האהבה ונהרות לא יטפוה אס"תן איש את פל"הון ביתו באהבה בוז יבוזו לו:

Many waters cannot quench love, Neither can the floods drown it; If a man would give all the substance of his house for love, He would utterly be contemned.

Miqra according to the Masorah (CC-BY-SA) • JPS 1917 (Public Domain)

42

בחכמה יבנה בית

"With wisdom a house is built": "his house" in the Song of Songs is the Torah's letters, built by Chochmah.

Proverbs 24:3 משלי כ"ד:ג

בחכמה יבנה בית ובתבונה יתבונן:

Through wisdom is a house builded; And by understanding it is established;

Miqra according to the Masorah (CC-BY-SA) • JPS 1917 (Public Domain)

found no vessel that could contain blessing for Israel save that of peace, as it is written: "The L-rd will give strength unto his people; ...

Torat Emet 357 (Public Domain) • Mishnah Yomit by Dr. Joshua Kulp (CC-BY)

54

תורת אמת

The prophet Malachi describes the faithful priest of old: "A Torah of truth was in his mouth." Here the Torah is called "truth" because its root is the tikkun "and truth."

Malachi 2:6: מלאכי ב' ו':

תורת אמת היתה בפיהו ועולה לא־נמצא בשפתיו בשלום ובמישור הלק אתי ורבים השיב מעון:

The law of truth was in his mouth, And unrighteousness was not found in his lips; He walked with Me in peace and uprightness, And did turn many away from iniquity.

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55

דחייב אדם לברך מאה ברכות

Rabbi Meir teaches that a person must recite a hundred blessings every day, deriving it from "What (mah) does G-d ask of you."

Menachot 43b:15-17: מ"ג ב' ט"ו-י"ז:

תניא היה רבי מאיר אומר חייב אדם לברך מאה ברכות בכל יום שנאמר (דברים י', יב) ועתה ישראל מה ה' אלקיך שואל מעמך רב חייא בריה דרב אויא בשבתא וביומי טבי טרח וממלי להו באיספרמקי ומגדי תניא היה ר"מ אומר חייב אדם לברך שלש ברכות בכל יום אלו הן שעשאני ישראל שלא עשאני אשה שלא עשאני בור

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KEHOT'S NOTE

מנחות מג, ב. וראה שו"ע אדה"ז סי' מו. ראה במאמרי אדה"ז — נביאים ע' צו הטעם לקי ברכות דוקא שזה כנגד ע"ס וכל אחד כלול מעשר ספירות. בלקו"ת מסעי צו ג, עקב טז, ב מציין לכאן.

56

א"ת מה אלא מאה

The Zohar identifies "mah" with Malchus, as the Kehot note indicates.

Zohar II, 127a: זח"ב קכו, א

KEHOT'S NOTE

מנחות שם בתוס' ד"ה שואל. וע' במד"ר ס"פ קרח (ראה הלשון באוה"ת נ"ך ע' ג). זח"ב קכו, א. ובזח"ג קעט, א.

57

א"ת מה אלא מאה

The Kehot note lists this Zohar as another place that discusses mah and the reading me'ah.

Zohar, Korach 10:46-13:56: זח"ב קכ"ג-קכ"ו:

58

מה היינו בחיי מל'

Kehot's marei makom for these words (its note is below).

KEHOT'S NOTE

זח"ב תרומה קכו, א.

59

וצריך להמשיך מבחי' סוכ"ע בממכ"ע

The note records that Or HaTorah quotes this statement: that the hundred blessings draw sovev kol almin into

memalei kol almin.

KEHOT'S NOTE

מובא באוה"ת נ"ך כרך א ע' נ.

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ונאם הגבר הוקם ע"ל

David's last words: "The saying of David son of Yishai, the saying of the man raised on high (hukam al)." Plainly al means "on high"; the Midrash reads al (ayin-lamed, 70 + 30 = 100) as the hundred blessings David instituted.

II Samuel 23:1: שמואל ב כ"ג:א'

ואלה דברי דוד האחרונים נאם דוד בן־ישי ונאם הגבר הקם על משיח אלקי יעקב ונעים זמרות ישראל:

Now these are the last words of David: The saying of David the son of Jesse, And the saying of the man raised on high, The anointed of the G-d of Jacob, And the sweet singer of Israel:

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שהיו מתים ק' אנשים בכל יום עד שתקן דוד מאה ברכות

The Midrash reads "the man raised on high (hukam al)" as the hundred blessings: every day a hundred Jews were dying, until David instituted a hundred blessings and the plague stopped. The maamar asks how the blessings stopped the deaths.

Bamidbar Rabbah 18:21: במדבר רבה י"ח:כ"א



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THE CHASSIDISHE PARSHA

About this edition

This edition contains the Hebrew text, the English translation, our explanations, and the notes.

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The Rebbe asked that the maamarim of the week's parsha, the "Chassidishe Parsha," be learned during that week, spread over its seven days (Sichah of Shabbos Parshas Vayakhel 5725 · Toras Menachem vol. 42, pp. 306-309). Why learn it, and the Rebbe's brachos: likuteitorah.com/about/the-chassidishe-parsha/

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מוקדש לכבוד הגאון המקובל רבי לוי יצחק שניאורסאהן זצ"ל

Dedicated in honor of the Rebbe's father, Reb Levi Yitzchok