

The Daily Page

January 10, 2010

*Taken from the Daily Kabbalah Lesson
of Dr. Michael Laitman and Bnei Baruch*

Preparing For A Historic Event

Question from a Student: Sometimes in life there are situations of incredible opportunity. In a month and a half there will be an international Kabbalah Congress in Israel dedicated to *The Zohar*, which will be attended by thousands of people. How should we prepare for this Congress if we want real changes to take place?

Dr. Laitman's Answer: This is, indeed, a very special situation. For the first time in history, we are given the opportunity to solve all our problems, both in Israel and the whole world. This is what the revelation of *The Book of Zohar* can do.

This Congress will give every person the key to the solution; the solution can be partial or complete; it can be personal or national or even global; it can even pertain to the existence of all reality, because everything originates from one root.

At the Congress, we still study what Baal HaSulam explains—how we can truly change our destiny. Right now we have all the tools and opportunities for this at our disposal; we only have to use them correctly. We will study all of this and we will implement it in practice when we meet.

I think that every person whose wish is not to simply hear about everything Kabbalah says from a distance, but who wishes to actually implement this wisdom and to change his life and fate for the better, will participate in this Congress, whether virtually or physically. I expect that there will be people in attendance who have only heard of Kabbalah a month or two ago, and who revealed it at the last moment. There will be room for everyone there.

If a person is searching for a way to change his life and wants to find out a little more about himself, his future, and the opportunity to change things, then the wisdom of Kabbalah enables him to do this. And there is no other opportunity.

The Creator's Work

As we open *The Book of Zohar* again and again, that initial inspiration eventually passes.

Indeed, this inspiration is given to us from above, like the point in the heart that brings us to the science of Kabbalah. It is called an awakening from above (*Itaruta de-Leila*), given to us by the Upper Force.

The Daily Page

January 10, 2010

Naturally, this “fuel,” the desire for the Upper, pushes us to aspire forward with burning eyes. More and more we want to feel what is hidden there, within the book, what exactly it speaks of. From above we are awakened to seek contact between ourselves and the book.

And then this inspiration passes. It passes because we become engulfed by new desires, ones that lack the Creator’s awakening from above.

Now we must add our own awakening from below, and that is how we continue to advance—by independently searching for the answers to questions like “Why do I need this work? What is it for?”

Each time the Creator wants us to reveal the importance of the Upper ourselves, to reveal the pressing need for contact with Him, the value of all the means to achieve that contact (*The Book of Zohar*); and to keep searching for these inner notions within ourselves again and again.

And then we come to a state wherein we must realize that we’re engaged in “*Bezael’s* work”—building a spiritual vessel inside ourselves, a Temple with all its contents. It is a great and slow work that requires a great deal of preparation.

In truth, we never actually do anything; all that’s required of us is the willingness, desire and intention.

Everything is realized by the force of *Bina* above, though prompted by awakening from below. Therein lies our work. That is what it means to fulfill our work.

Therefore, on the one hand our work lies in exerting efforts and making discernments at every step. But on the other hand, it is called “the Creator’s work,” because it is done by the Creator, and not by us.

Indeed, we need only to achieve the desire, the appeal, the prayer; everything else is done by the Creator (“half a shekel, the Creator shall complete the rest”).

What Is The World In *The Book of Zohar* Like?

When we are reading *The Zohar*, I don’t want to give theoretical explanations and confuse people, giving them the false impression that they’ve understood something.

All these qualities must be sought within yourself. Just as a small child doesn’t understand the difference between one and the other, you don’t understand it either. Understanding comes later, naturally.

In this context understanding means attainment. You must feel everything in order to say: “Ah, now I see, I feel, I taste, I live with it!” You need only aspire to penetrate this picture, and then you’ll understand!

The Zohar shouldn’t be studied theoretically. There’s nothing to study; you must simply enter it and discover for yourself, just as a child attains this world.

Does the child know where he needs to develop? No, he merely absorbs from the world all that he can, and that’s how he grows. So you should develop, and those should be your thoughts and intentions during the study.

The only difference is, a child has his room, the care of his mother, all kinds of games, all those things make up his world. But your world, the one in which you must develop, is *The Book of Zohar*. So behave like a child that has to discover it for himself this world.

A child doesn’t ask what he should think about; he opens his mouth and eyes wide, and greedily absorbs all the information with all of his senses.

The Daily Page

January 10, 2010

That is called attainment—when first you sense something, and only afterward begin to understand what it is.

Within the sensation you already begin to understand how things are connected; how they affect you, and what happens when you interact with them. Like a child learns from his toys how everything works.

You should feel *The Zohar* as the only method to enter the spiritual world. There is no other!

The brain cannot add anything to this, because then you'd need to use your corporeal reason of this world and material examples.

And that is no way to build a spiritual understanding.

Preparing For A Historic Event

Question from a Student: Sometimes in life there are situations of incredible opportunity. In a month and a half there will be an international Kabbalah Congress in Israel dedicated to *The Zohar*, which will be attended by thousands of people. How should we prepare for this Congress if we want real changes to take place?

Dr. Laitman's Answer: This is, indeed, a very special situation. For the first time in history, we are given the opportunity to solve all our problems, both in Israel and the whole world. This is what the revelation of *The Book of Zohar* can do.

This Congress will give every person the key to the solution; the solution can be partial or complete; it can be personal or national or even global; it can even pertain to the existence of all reality, because everything originates from one root.

At the Congress, we still study what Baal HaSulam explains—how we can truly change our destiny. Right now we have all the tools and opportunities for this at our disposal; we only have to use them correctly. We will study all of this and we will implement it in practice when we meet.

I think that every person whose wish is not to simply hear about everything Kabbalah says from a distance, but who wishes to actually implement this wisdom and to change his life and fate for the better, will participate in this Congress, whether virtually or physically. I expect that there will be people in attendance who have only heard of Kabbalah a month or two ago, and who revealed it at the last moment. There will be room for everyone there.

If a person is searching for a way to change his life and wants to find out a little more about himself, his future, and the opportunity to change things, then the wisdom of Kabbalah enables him to do this. And there is no other opportunity.

All of History Is Inside of Me

Question from A Student: Is all of human history just something that appears within me?

The Daily Page

January 10, 2010

Dr. Laitman's Answer: I perceive reality only here and now. I imagine inside me that there is a history taking place "over time," that something "was" and "will be"; however, all this is but my own imagination. Did this really happen in the past? It only took place in my consciousness; I perceived it as happening. However, there is nothing outside of me; everything exists only inside my will to enjoy.

History is a process that I imagine taking place over time. But there is no time! There is no movement, and there is no space; we only image them. There is only a "place" called "the will to enjoy," and around this desire there are records of information called *Reshimot* passing by, like a film reel being unravelled and giving me the sensation that I live inside this movie.

Within my desire, all of reality divides into "me" and "the rest of nature," which includes the inanimate objects, plants, animals, and people. This division into two distant and opposite parts was created in me deliberately, so I would correct my ego by uniting the two parts of my desire together.

One part of my desire hates the other, because one part appears to me as external, such as the people outside me, and the other part appears as internal, myself. This is why I reject others and do things that seemingly benefit myself.

As a result of my studies, I have to understand that the things which appear external to me only seem this way in order for me to overcome this division and correct my desire. I have to change my desire to a bestowing one by ceasing to see the difference between my two desires, the external and internal ones. Therein lies my salvation, which enables me to come out of my current egoistic state and attain bestowal, thus entering a new reality. By acquiring the intention to bestow, I will feel the spiritual world.

This does not mean that I go through the preparation here and later on I will be "transferred" to another place. Rather, to the degree I reveal love for you instead of hatred, I will begin to feel the spiritual world, the world to come. It is comprised of desires that I attach to me. So I shouldn't look for faraway worlds, because it's all here. Everything lies in the connection between me and those who now seem distant and hateful to me.

Later on we will reveal that we had hated ourselves and only harmed ourselves. The more harm I inflicted on others, the more I will have to correct myself later on.

Signs Of Spiritual Advancement

When a person reads, hears, and participates in reading *The Book of Zohar* correctly, then he has to check the degree of his progress. Of course, we are unable to assess our progress precisely because we don't understand the initial conditions we are in, what our qualities are, and what we have to attain. The beginning and the end of the path are not revealed to us.

But in any case, based on our sensations we are able to correctly define the phases of advancement and the difference between different states. It should become increasingly easier and more natural to imagine everything described in *The Book of Zohar*; a person should be able to see that it all takes place inside him, in his qualities. When starting to read *The Book of Zohar*, it has to become more and more natural for him to immediately start searching within himself for the definition of every word. He has to feel that the book evokes responses inside him to every word, every symbol, and every action.

The Daily Page

January 10, 2010

He then starts to identify the inner system of souls in which he exists. He starts to see that the body, which he imagines himself to exist in, as well all the space around him—the entire world, the environment, and the whole universe that now appears before him, are all part of his inner sensation. And to this partial sensation he is now adding one more new sensation that *The Book of Zohar* explains and reveals to him.

These two forms of perception awaken in a person and somehow interact with one another. By means of reading *The Book of Zohar*, the new form of perception of reality becomes more dominant and powerful than his previous perception of reality.

This is one way to check and assess how much you are advancing at every step of the way. The second way to check is to understand that the point in the heart that was initially given to you only seems to be a point now due to a lack of inspiration, impression, revelation and perception. In actuality, this point includes all the souls, all the worlds, and the entire reality that was created by the Creator.

This point expanded from above downwards in the beginning of creation, when it was created as “existence from absence”; it thus expanded through the four phases of Direct Light, the World of Infinity, and through all the worlds, down to our world. In the same way, we must now expand and broaden this point with our own strength from below upwards. Of course, we don’t have the forces to do this inherently. But when we try to expand this point on our own and when we turn to all its constituent parts—our friends, desiring to receive inspiration from them, then to the degree we are inspired, instead of seeing one point, we start to see many different points that are connected together by a net called the system of souls, or the system of worlds. The system of souls is more internal, while the system of worlds is more external.

That is how we reveal all of reality within the point in the heart that we received from Above. This point expands and we begin to reveal the entire universe in it. A person begins to see that his point in the heart includes all the friends, and later, all the people who are more distant, until it expands to include all of reality. If a person is gaining this vision, perception, and approach, it is a good sign that he is advancing as a result of reading *The Book of Zohar* correctly.