

Tuning in to the Divine Broadcast

by Ariel Bar Tzadok

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I have a radio and I am trying to tune in a specific station. I know where it is on the dial. My radio is on and all is working properly. Yet, I can't seem to get the station in clearly. I know it is broadcasting loud and strong, but all I hear is a lot of static. Sometimes, I can get the signal ever so slightly, but then there is all that static. What is one to do?

Tuning in to God is like tuning in a radio station. It is not enough that God is broadcasting, it is we who have to tune in to the Divine broadcast. And this is where our difficulties lie. How do we tune in? How do we actually get to listen in? Well, the answers to this are not unknown. We do know what to do and how to do it. The problem is whether or not we are willing to do what it is that needs to be done.

Usually, people like to follow paths that are quick and easy. Yet, quick and easy efforts do not lead to hard earned, long term results. What we invest usually defines what we reap.

Some always chose the quick and easy, while some always chose the long and hard. We would thus think that those who make the efforts reap the rewards, whereas those who chose the quick and easy reap nothing more than what their shallow efforts deserve. But, we sometimes find that this right and proper relationship does not always work out. Sometimes, even the greatest of efforts do not reap any type of decent reward. And on the other hand, sometimes those who make next to no efforts at all reap tremendous rewards far beyond their investment. Yes, it is true, sometimes good-guys do finish last, and bad-guys finish first.

We may not like this truth, but we cannot deny it. While we cannot deny it, we may be able to explain it, at least a little bit. Consider life and life's fortunes to be distributed throughout humanity on a bell-curve. Those on the extremes on both sides are few, whereas those in the middle are many. If we look around we will see that those who really have it rough are in a minority, probably in equal proportion to those who really have it good. The majority of us usually fall somewhere in the middle. By this I mean, that if we look around we will always find those who are less fortunate than us and those who are more fortunate than us.

Sometimes, we can better our lot and sometimes we cannot. Sometimes all the effort in the world adds up to nothing and sometimes no effort at all is required to have fortune just fall into one's lap from Heaven. Most times, there seems to be a rhyme and reason to the course of events, yet every now and then things happen, for good or for bad, that make no sense, and no matter how hard we try to understand, we just simply cannot. Like a bell-curve the majority of events and fortunes in the middle, we know, we see and we understand, whereas those at the two extremes are just unfathomable. We acknowledge in faith that everything has a purpose and a reason, but we confess that such purpose and reason is beyond us to understand.

So what can one do if one finds oneself sliding towards the bad side of the bell-curve? Can one save oneself from hardships and misfortune? Many believe that they can go to modern day fortune-tellers (Kabbalists) who can magically block evil forces from harming one's desired course. And usually for a hefty fee, such so-called "holy-men" claim that they can work magic to manipulate the minds and hearts of his fellow human being. Needless to say that while these strange types of so-called religious figures can mystify and amaze many, they are, for the most part, a bunch of charlatans, who prey upon a superstitious public. The words attributed to the famous American showman, P.T. Barnum ring ever so loudly, "a sucker is born every minute." The old English adage is also appropriate to remember here, "a fool and his money are soon parted."

Bettering one's fortunes in life is not subject to magical intervention. Yet, this does not mean that one cannot succeed in betterment. On the contrary, we see around us examples, far beyond measure, where hard work and focused discipline definitely pay off with great rewards of accomplishment in many different fields of endeavor. Granted, sometimes all the efforts in the world do not accomplish for one what they might desire to achieve. There may be many different reasons for such failures. Nevertheless, these failures are exceptions to the rule and such exceptions do not change or invalidate the rule itself. Simply stated, hard work will bring hard-core rewards.

Pursuing one's fortune in finances and in spirituality follow in similar footsteps. Both require hard work, focused discipline, self sacrifice and a whole lot of blessing from Heaven. Granted, there are no promises that one is guaranteed to become either a millionaire or prophet depending upon their choice of focus. Yet, one thing is clear and guaranteed, unless one does make all the necessary efforts and take all the required steps, failure is definitely assured. While we may not win, we can definitely lose. This is just how the "game" of life works.

Our society is full of all kinds of financial schemes and get-rich-quick plans. Apparently, none of them really work. The only ones getting rich through such programs and products are the ones selling them to those gullible enough to buy them. Spiritual "get-God-quick" programs are no different. Everybody's got their "magical elixir" that is guaranteed to shoot you to the top of "God's favorite" list. Sorry to have to inform you, but I don't think God has such a list and getting on it, if such a list really was to exist, would not be through "brownie points" and bribes. God is not going to be impressed with you because you tow the party line and/or donate to this or that politically correct religious cause.

Judging from the numerous examples found in the Bible, I see that what impresses God is sincerity, honesty, hard work and true commitment to a proper, righteous path. Tuning into God is not magic, it is really rather mechanical. Get the right frequency and you will tune into the Divine broadcast. Getting the right frequency does require of us discipline, focus and hard work, but none of these things are beyond us. While there is no promise that any one of us will become the next Moses, we should still make every efforts to follow in the footsteps of Moses and seek to serve God in everything, everywhere, always. While we may not become the next Moses, this does not stop us from pleasing God as he did. He was called a "man of God" and so too can anyone of us (male or female). In my opinion, there is no greater accomplishment in this life, more than this.

Elijah the Prophet would isolate himself in prayer until he could hear the still, soft Voice of Heaven speaking inside him, directly into his mind. He was well trained and sensitive to be able to differentiate between the Voice of Heaven and his own inner voice expressing his own ideas, opinions and desires. The Bible is full of examples of false prophets who did just this and our modern world does not lack from their contemporary counterparts.

Prophetic training cultivates sensitivity to the Divine broadcast. This is how we tune in. This training is a long, arduous path. There are no short-cuts and no “get-God-quick” schemes. The real prophetic path requires hard work, continual discipline and a long-term commitment to do what is right. In the end, the results of one's endeavors will vary, depending upon the individual and the level of their personal endeavors.

While no one is becoming the next Moses or Elijah, they may instead become the next ones connected to the Divine broadcast and the ones in whom God is very much pleased. This could be you.

Your next step should be obvious.

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