

Kohelet Thoughts 4

By HaRav Ariel Bar Tzadok

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“Do not allow your mouth to cause sin to your flesh, and do not say before the angel that it is an error; why should G-d be angry with your voice and destroy the work of your hands? “For despite the many dreams, vanities and many words fear G-d.” (Kohelet 5:5-6)

One of the worst things in the world, in my opinion, is when someone speaks about something of which they really know nothing about. True knowledge is based on experience, true experience must be personal. Without such personal experience, there can be no true knowing, without true knowing there is no true knowledge. Without true knowledge one should keep silent.



Our world is full of garbage because so many people talk about things they do not know and act in ridiculous and foolish ways that make no sense to those who do know.

The human mind is a fragile and weak thing. Because we never learn to experience what we think, our thoughts and conclusions are all abstracts. They are repeated in books and we thus ascribe to them authority and correctness even though we have never explored and experienced things for ourselves. This is how falsehoods grow. Like a cancer they spread among us and eat at the mind and will of all. We are left with a people who follow their marching orders like good little soldiers. They do not bother to think for themselves; their superiors have thought for them. All they have to do is follow orders. After all, is it not easier just to follow rather than to lead?

To experience requires of one effort, energy, testing, tribulation and discipline to overcome. Who today wants to invest such effort when everything can be handed to them on a silver platter? Why work to think when you can be told what to think?

There is no fear of G-d today, especially amongst those who claim to fear Him simply because their entire lives and lifestyles are something out of a book and out of a fantasy of living long ago in a place far away. No one today seeks to experience G-d. No one seeks to know Him. No one knows anymore what it even means to know Him. Yet, we are commanded to do just this. Those connected know. Those unconnected do not know, cannot know and all the while think that they do know and that they are the only ones who know. Oh well, what can we say? Self deception is more intoxicating than all kinds of hallucinogens and other drugs. Self deception numbs the mind and blinds the eye.

Do not wonder why the world as we know it must radically change and why the vast majority will not survive to see the new day. In their blindness the disconnected see nothing, therefore they cannot see what is coming and thus cannot avoid their own doom. Yet, this too is for good. Souls must continue on their paths and their self deceptions must end. Either they choose the long and hard road to end self deception for themselves or Heaven will chose for them the short road and end it quickly.

We always have a choice. Every day we chose life or death. Every day we chose either truth or lie. It is high time that we learn how to do things right, if we expect to move properly with the dance of Mashiah's coming. Only those who know how to experience directly will gain true knowledge. Only those with true knowledge will know how to survive. As for the rest, oh well!