

Flying Purple Elephants, Party On!

By Ariel Bar Tzadok

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Which is worse, an uncomfortable truth, or interrupting a terrific party?

Some truths are uncomfortable to bear. For some, ignorance is truly bliss. For some, having a terrific party is what life is all about. For some, to interrupt the terrific party is the worst that can happen.

Do not let it be said that I am a “party pooper,” I really am not. I never crash a party to which I am not invited, and I never yell “fire,” even if there really is one.

Yes, the party is going on! Don't worry about me, I will not disturb your fun. All that I am is one of those pesty types that bear the uncomfortable truths that no one wants to hear all the while that they are partying.



Although I bear the uncomfortable truth, I will not cast off my yoke to cause another to bear it for me. So, you're safe. As long as I bear the message, you don't have to, unless of course, you want to. But then again, in order to bear the message of uncomfortable truth you will have to leave the party, and once out, you won't be able to rejoin it.

Like I said, I am no party pooper. If you want a glimpse at the uncomfortable truth, then you will have to leave the party and join me outside. I'll be sticking around, at least for a little bit, waiting for you.

I will not interrupt your party, and as long as you are in the party, But, once you leave the party and breathe the fresh air outdoors, then like me, you will find the truth to be most refreshing, enlivening and revitalizing.

Then again, if you remain in the party, you'll never know what you're missing. You'll continue to have so much fun that you will remain completely oblivious to what is happening around you just outside your little party.



Distractions are a terrible thing. They can have an effect similar to a psychotic episode. When one has hallucinations of seeing flying purple elephants, anyone not sharing that vision, which by definition means all the rest of us, is considered to be crazy, by the very one who we deem to be crazy. Indeed, the psychotic is actually seeing those flying purple elephants, and marvels why we cannot see what he does. We wonder about him, and he wonders about us. And because we are in the majority, we deem him to be crazy and ourselves to be normal, and we lock him up.

Distractions are like psychotic visions of flying purple elephants. Those involved with the distractions are absolutely convinced that they are true. The distractions are even entertaining, in one way or another. The distractions can so envelop one, that it is like being in a terrific party, that grabs all of one's attention, and never lets go.

The party person sees the flying purple elephants and cannot understand why we do not see them, and why we question his sanity for seeing them. Distractions are as distractions be. They are meant to overwhelm the eye, the ear and the mind, and that is exactly what they do!

If I were to share with you that there is something very seriously wrong with the universe, you would not be able to grasp what I was saying. If I were to tell you that there is a serious tremor in "the Force," you would accuse me of quoting Star Wars, and dismiss the seriousness of what I was trying to say. So, when I am serious I am misunderstood, and when I am reaching out, I am rejected and dismissed.



Yet, I keep on saying, "there are no real flying purple elephants! All that you're seeing is a distracting delusion, and it is preventing you from seeing what really out there." But no one hears me, because I am outside the party and they are inside, and I cannot be heard through all the noise.

So, I turn to writing these words, with the hope and prayer that maybe not only will you read them, but that maybe you will also understand. There really is something seriously wrong today with just about everything. There really is a major tremor in "the Force," and it's vital that you leave the distractions of the party, come out here, and sense the real "Force" for yourself!

"Rabbi Eliezer ben Yaakov said, He who does something good, draws to himself a guardian angel. He who does something evil, draws to himself an accusing demon. Repentance and good deeds are a shield against dark times." Avot 4:11.

Party time is over. Its time to get come back to the real world. If you continue to ignore this message, then He whose message this is has His many ways to make sure that you get His message. I am only one messenger of many. I can be ignored. But the message will get through to you, to us all, in one way or another.

Like I said, I am no party pooper! But the party ended a long time ago, and those who still continue partying are oblivious to what is going on around them. Too many people still just want to have fun, and to remain distracted. Too many just don't feel anything anymore. They can't feel the pain of others. They can't even feel their own pain. They certainly cannot feel any tremors in "the Force." They are still too busy making fun of me because I am using a term like "the Force."

Instead of being real, all too many continue being false. Rabbi Eliezer ben Yaakov spoke wisely and true. His words should not need to be explained any further. No more partying on. The party is over and the flying purple elephants are not real!