

Secrets of the Open Link to Heaven

Commentary to Parshat T'tzaveh

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Since the destruction of the First Temple and the concealment of the tools necessary for direct communication with G-d, the Jewish people have suffered tremendously. Certainly there have been high points, like Purim and Hanukah; still, there have been no highs that can compare to those that existed in the days when the lines of communication were fully open.

The Jewish nation suffered in Babylon far more setbacks that most can even remember. Even during the days of the Second Temple, more setbacks and suffering occurred, much of which has been delegated to the footnotes of history. Even before the destruction of the Second Temple, the Jewish nation has known only trouble after trouble, being blown around the world, like a loose leaf on the wind. All this began because our lines of communication with Heaven were severed.

Too this day we have no idea just how valuable the communications system established by Torah and operating through the Ark and the High Priest was for the vitality of the nation. Yes, a remnant of Israel has survived, after suffering through one persecution to the next. We number over ten million, yet, for the record, we should number over one hundred million. There are a good number of lost Jews out there. Whether or not some day they will be identified and brought back into the fold is a question that only Heaven can answer.

Many today look at our troubled times and see all types of Messianic prophecies being fulfilled around us. I agree that many prophecies are being fulfilled; some more profoundly than others. Yet, none of this means that the dawn of the Messianic era is immanently upon us. Heaven works according to its own calendar; therefore the actual advent of the Mashiah might be a long way off, or then again it might be tomorrow. What is certain is the prior to the coming of Mashiah, there must first be the restoration of some of the lost lines of communication that existed prior to their being severed.

The Ark of the Covenant and the vestments of the High Priest were the primary form through which communication occurred. These are hidden and even if they were to be miraculously discovered or not so miraculously reproduced, we would still lack the necessary details to know how to activate them to order to restore the lost communications. The system

established by Torah for linking the High Priest and the Ark had many intricate details, none of which have survived to be recorded in our religious literature. Therefore, even if we were to have these tools or replicas, they would still not work to perform their required tasks. Compare it if you will to a computer, one can have one and still not know how to use it.

Without the operator's manual, the Ark and Priestly vestments are not operational. All the faith and good will in the world will not activate them. All the righteousness and holiness in the world will not turn them on. One must remember the Biblical example of Nadav and Avihu, the two sons of Aharon who attempted to draw close without the proper preparations; they were immediately electrocuted and they died. One cannot play around with very serious highly technical apparatuses and expect one's faith to protect one from natural disaster. The Bible references other examples that highlight the danger and foolishness in this position.

The hope of the archeological route therefore might not be the best option open to us. There are, however, other options. These may be more difficult than having a High Priest do the work for us; nonetheless, it might be the only option open to us, if we sincerely wish to reopen the lines of lost communication with Heaven.

During the days of the Temple and even before it, spiritual disciplines were learned and practiced that made contact with Heaven a possible and doable thing. These disciplines were hard and strict. Most laymen today would never be able to undergo this type of training. Then again, even in the days when these disciplines were readily available, they were accessed by only the select few and never by the masses. Today, like in ancient centuries gone by, we still have small pockets of devoted and disciplined individuals who if trained properly could revive the ancient schools of the children of the prophets.

It is possible that through properly trained children of the prophets that prophetic lines of communication can be restored. It is, after all, a Messianic prophecy that Eliyahu HaNavi is to come prior to Mashiah. If a Prophet is destined to come prior to Mashiah, that means that prophecy must come along with him and if there can be one prophet, then there can be more. If one can learn prophecy, then so can the many that are ready and able.

Fortunately for us instructions in the science of prophecy still exist. Although they may not be as complete as they once were, nonetheless, certain principles underlying prophetic connections still apply regardless of the body of information accompanying it. In other words, because prophecy is mainly a psychological phenomenon we still have what it takes to cultivate prophetic abilities.

Procedures and practices used to reorient the mind making it more conducive for prophecy are recorded in the holy texts. However, like I mentioned previously this path is not for the weak of heart or for the one lacking discipline. Prophetic science, like any other discipline requires much sacrifice and work. The reason why prophetic contact is so difficult today is not the fault of Heaven; rather it is because of us. If we had our priorities correct and were willing to make the personal sacrifices, to lead the necessary disciplined life style required

for prophecy, we might be surprised just how many individuals can draw close to Heaven's gates, with some even possibly entering therein.

Today we have no Ark and no High Priest. We have no Temple and no daily sacrifice. All these objects and rituals served to maintain an open line of communication between us and Heaven. With their loss, the line of communication was severed. If this were the end state, we would not have much hope for the future. However, this is not the end state. Even before the destruction of the First and only true Temple, alternate forms of communication were being established so that even without the normal apparatus in place, the people would still have an open line to G-d.

Prophecy in its old form ceased soon after the removal of the Ark from the face of the Earth. However, even with the cessation of the old forms, newer forms were already well in place. One can look at the Biblical record and see the likes of Daniel in Babylon, who was not a prophet and yet who maintained an open line to Heaven. His example serves as the role model for this alternative line of psychic communication. Although Daniel was no prophet, he was a man connected; connected to what we call Ruah HaKodesh. Daniel was not a speaker of philosophy. He did not deal with theology and religion. Daniel was a practitioner of the prophetic techniques. As such, this enabled him to alter his consciousness and to mentally travel along the path to Heaven. While the Heavenly gates were closed, still, Daniel was not alone standing outside them. He was surrounded by the entire realm of the angels. They too stand outside the gates. Therefore Daniel was in good company. So too is it with anyone else following in Daniel's footsteps to ascend above.

The garments worn by the High Priest contained many secrets not discussed in the Torah. The Urim, Tumim and Hoshen were constructed in ways that cannot be duplicated. Instructions how to build them were revealed directly by Heaven. Without such direct communication no duplicates will ever be possible. The means of communication that transpired between Priest and Ark are lost to us. We only have left what we do. We can use the descriptions of the holy items mentioned in Torah and embellish their meaning with all kinds of moral and philosophical teachings. However, we must also be careful in that we never confuse our embellishments with the real and actual meanings of the items described. If we forget the original intent of these sections of the Torah, we remove ourselves even further away from the connection they represented all the while thinking that we are moving closer. Moral teachings and philosophy have their place, yet they must never be misunderstood as the original intent of the Torah.

Torah deals with the psychic reality of the human species. Torah does not distinguish between physical reality and what we call spiritual reality. As human beings we exist simultaneously in both worlds; as such Torah speaks to our true state as being in both worlds. Those today that have lost sight of spiritual reality and dismiss it, literally have lost half of themselves. Therefore everything emanating forth from them is severely handicapped, especially the Torah they teach.

Without Priest or Ark and without prophecy, we still have access to Ruah HaKodesh. We can still commune with the angels and learn about Heaven's plans. These doors have never been closed to us. However, because so many have substituted philosophy and the study of legalisms for the disciplines of spiritual ascent, those who do ascend are very few in number. The doors are open, yet who is walking through them?

Until we have a reorientation in the way we approach Torah and study its word, we will be destined to dwell in squalor in this world with all its troubles and sufferings. All the philosophy and legal studies do not save us from hard times. The promises given by our Sages referring to the protective power of Torah and mitzvot were not in reference to philosophy and the study of legalisms.

Our Torah is a mighty weapon, but only for those who know how to use it properly. While we speak the words of Torah, we must learn the ancient ways how to activate them to unleash their hidden powers. These were the secrets of the children of the prophets (Benei Nviim) that they handed down to those who would ascend to speak with the angels. This later group who harnessed the tools of Ruah HaKodesh were called the children of ascent (Benei Aliyah) and those who gazed upon the Supernal Throne (Merkava). They are links in a chain, the chain of true authentic Torah tradition, known in Hebrew as the Mesorah.

Those who only speak words of Torah without unleashing their inner power speak words of weakness. As the saying goes, "talk is cheap; action speaks louder than words." Unfortunately, for many centuries now, the way to unleash the power from within the Torah has been cast aside and considered unfit learning. Those of this persuasion instead adopt their legalisms and philosophy. They have no idea of the level of harm that they cause to Torah, Israel and the future destiny of the Jewish people.

Exile is a terrible place to be. Unfortunately one can be in exile even when in the holy Land and even when there is a semblance of a Temple standing. All the days of the Second Temple the people of the Land were as much in exile as were their brothers in faraway lands. Today, the situation is the same. Living in the land or outside of it, with or without a Temple; as long as there is no Ark and no Urim, Tumim and Hoshen to make the proper connections, all we have is a shell and shadow of what once was. This is the Will of Heaven; there is little that we can do about it. Yet, within that little that we can do, there is still much to do.

Open lines of communication with Heaven still exist for us. We can still ascend and walk among our brothers, the angels. In every generation we have had a small number of Sages who do so. Yet, as we see their power and number is limited. The path is clearly marked. The course of training is ready; the core of officers is ready to receive new cadets. Yet, who comes forth for the training? So, into exile we went and in exile will we stay. What a shame that we have such power in our hands that can literally change the course of the entire Earth and yet, all we do is sit on our hands and digest philosophy and legalisms.

As you go about your daily affairs, ask yourself this; what have I done today to draw closer to Heaven and to reopen the lines of communications between us? Most likely you will not be

able to think of anything tangible. You will just think of some good deed you did, or some philosophy you have studied. You delude yourself into believing that these are the means of connections. Yet, you still do not speak with the angels and you still have no vision of the future or for that matter a clear vision of the present. How sad that when you are capable of receiving so much, you settle for so little!

The children of ascent are few. What a shame. If prophecy is indeed to return before the coming of Mashiah, then the first step in accomplishing it is for there to be more children of ascent. The more individuals who practice what it takes to rise above, the better the chances of one of them being invited into the Heavenly gates to be given a message for us directly from G-d. I am sure that message would be something similar to, "the time of the redemption has come, go and prepare the people." This alone is motivation for me. How about you?

Looking for further instruction? I have already written a book on it. Contact me if you are interested. Forgive my pessimism but up until now I have not heard from many of you, why should I now think that this would somehow change?

