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## KosherTorah School

# The Necessary Evolution of Religion

by Ariel B Tzadok

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God created man in His Image. This means that the mind/soul inside us is infinite.

Man has created God in his image. This means that we have placed a mask over the Face of God.

Having infinity inside us is good. Placing a mask over the Face of God is bad, very bad!



Human consciousness evolves. What

we know today was not known years ago. What will be known years from now is not known today. Just as our bodies grow, and mature, so too do our minds, at both the individual, and collective level.

Divine direction is given to all humanity for the sake of our collective spiritual evolution. In our ancient past, knowing human limitations, Heaven permitted our ancestors to embrace primitive religious ideas, and concepts. These essentially placed a metaphorical mask over the "Face" of God. Although Torah introduced, and proclaimed the concept of monotheism, to this day, the true essence of the Torah's meaning has not been understood by the masses. To this day, the majority still believe fairy-tales and myths about God, which have no basis in spiritual reality. Nevertheless, Heaven tolerates this because God knows that collective humanity needs to grow, and mature.

We are created in the Image of God. God knows us inside and out. It is we ourselves that do not know ourselves. Because we do not know ourselves, we also do not know the Divine Image inside us.

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Human history is a process of spiritual evolution where we grow and mature, from spiritual infancy, to spiritual adulthood. Like an individual child, humanity as a whole, is born, suckled, grows up, and eventually has to learn to stand on its own feet. It is this maturation process that we are experiencing in these times.

The past is behind us, the present is now, the future is ever before us. What we believed in our childhood has passed away in light of more mature understandings that we embrace as we grow up. As with the individual, so too with all humanity.

What we once believed about religion we have learned to be false. What we presently believe about religion we will learn in the future how mistaken we have been. What we will learn in the future will make our present beliefs look as primitive, juvenile and silly as the beliefs that we have already given up, and discarded.

To demonstrate this matter of religious evolution, let me share a lesson from the Ba'al Shem Tov, R. Israel ben Eliezer, the founder of the Hasidic movement. He revealed a profound teaching about the true nature of the Torah. (Ref. S.B.S.T. V'Zot 4)

The Torah, as we know are the Five Books of Moses. However, Rabbinic and Kabbalistic lore teach that the Torah existed in a primordial state even before the creation of the universe. In this, its primordial state, the Torah is represented as existing of letters of fire (black fire on white fire). Yet, these letters of fire did not as yet form the words, sentences, and narratives that we have today. As an event happened in ancient times, the letters of fire would appear in the mind of Moses in specific form, and sequence. He wrote these down, and that is how the primordial Torah solidified into the form of the Five Books that we have today.

Kabbalists have revealed another similar lesson. They taught that in the Messianic future, when our present human civilization will evolve into a higher spiritual state, then the letters of the Torah will be rearranged to form for us new combinations of words, sentences and narratives, to reveal to us the great secrets of the universe.

A literal understanding of this teaching would be radical, and would create a theological dilemma. Centuries earlier, Maimonides encoded the Thirteen Principles of the Jewish Faith, and stated emphatically that the Torah that we have in our hands today will never be exchanged for any other. This would seem to contradict what the Kabbalah has taught. However, when we understand the Kabbalah correctly, we see that there is indeed no conflict.

The teachings of the Kabbalah and the Ba'al Shem Tov are parables, they are a metaphorical lesson intended to inspire students of Torah. Yet, these teachings are not meant to be understood literally. We must never interpret symbolic language literally. This is an insult to sacred literature, and to human intelligence.

What the Kabbalists mean is that in the Messianic future, human consciousness will expand to such a point that when we read the Five Books of Moses, we will be able to understand within them so many more levels of revelation that presently we do not even know exist. It will symbolically be like the letters of the Torah forming new words, sentences and narratives. This will happen, not as a literal change to the words in the text, but rather this will happen in the consciousness of the human mind that comes to read, and understand the text. This is how humanity will evolve, and together with human evolution our collective understanding of religion will evolve alongside us.

This process of religious evolution is not limited to the messianic future. Radical changes are happening right now. It is no secret that our present global society is at odds with itself. Struggles between groups is rising to the point that a new world war is feared. The only reason why there is so much turmoil in human society is because the external turmoil is a reflection of a state of collective psychological turmoil. Psychological evolutionary change is happening now.

At the unconscious level collective humanity senses this change. Due to the fact that this change is experienced in the collective unconscious, individuals are not aware of what it is that is radicalizing them, and causing them so much irrational fear. It is the evolutionary movement of psychological change that is sensed, and it is greatly feared. Giving up the old to embrace the new is always fearful. Surrendering childhood, and embracing adulthood is always a fearful, and daunting challenge. But this is where we as a race are today.

We place masks over the face of God, believing juvenile ideas about spirituality, and this makes it easier for us to experience, and interact with our perceptions of Divine reality. Now, however, those masks are being removed, and for the first time we are beginning to see what is really underneath them. This is very frightening, especially to those who never believed that there was a mask in the first place.

God has a "Face" so radically different from anything that any of our religions have ever seen before. The letters of the Torah have begun their "rearrangement," starting in Genesis This is why we are having so much difficulty dealing with the modern cosmological discoveries of science. They reveal the true meaning of Genesis, but because we never before properly understood Genesis, we are terrified of giving up our illusions, and fearful of what it will mean for us to embrace the newly revealed truths.

Evolution cannot be stopped, nor can it go backwards. No child has ever physically stayed a child. The body grows up, regardless of whether the mind and emotions follow. We are at the dawn of childhood's end, and the beginning of our collective human transition.

This process may indeed continue for centuries. Then again the transition may happen quickly. It all depends upon what is discovered. One thing is for sure, we are all on a

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journey, and there is no return ticket. We, as a race, are marching forward, and we will continue to do so, until we achieve our predestined fate. Like, life itself, this is inevitable. Change, and spiritual evolution are both inevitable.

Life is not random, nor haphazard. There is a pattern to the universe, there is a pattern to life here on Earth, and there is a pattern to collective human spiritual development. We are part and parcel of a great, evolving universe. Our religions reflect how little we truly understand about the great pattern of things.

Because we do not pay attention to the flow of the universe, we do not see, and thus misunderstand the way things truly are. Our religions reflect what we believe to be true, as opposed to what is known to be true in the collective unconscious. Again, this is the source of great contention.

We are afraid to let go of what we believe, and to experience what we already know internally. However, the flow of evolution will not be hindered. We will move forward, we will grow, we will achieve our collective destiny. And as we do, our religions will evolve alongside us. This is happening even now, even though many may resist, and fight it.

Eventually, evolution will win out, and our old ways will fall aside. We will be reborn into the new. The process of rebirth has already begun.





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